BURRELL C. LAWTON
136 LA ESPINA
GREEN VALLEY, ARIZONA 85614
February 28, 1989

Mr. Paul S. Lawton
4900 Socastee Blvd.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Dear Paul:

On the other side of this letter is a copy of a letter I have just written to Tony Fusco.

Rather than repeat the same thing to you, I think it will be self-explanatory.

This upsets the theory as to John Lawton (of Suffolk, CT) as appeared in Tercentenary of New England Families, although it gives no clue as to a connection between the Lawtons of Lawton Manor and Thomas and George.

With best regards,

Burrell

Dear Robert,

I received your latest letter and will respond to it this week end. In the meantime, I wanted to rush these enclosures off to you, as they are quite significant, particularly the old Lawton records which Burrell had copied in England.

The letter from Dr. Dodd threw me for a loop. I was not at all prepared for this news. I have already called Tommy and asked him to instruct Price and Associates to verify Dr. Dodd's assertion that the Admonition of William Lawton (1703-1736/7) of Snape "does not exist." I know that it certainly did in fact exist in SLC in the early 1980's, when I had research conducted out there on Capt. Wm Lawton. Surely my researcher did not fabricate this information, all of which dovetails perfectly with Dr. Dodd's research. In addition, my researcher in SLC sent me the data on William of Snape for a "negative reason" — i.e., to show him as a possibility that she had eliminated as a candidate for Capt. Wm. Anyway, we shall see what we shall see, when Richard Price verifies sources in SLC. Of course, I will keep you closely informed.

over

Next Thursday at 4:00 (a week from today), Tommy is going to meet with Andrea Osinchak, our research representative for Price and Associates. She is driving from Falls Church, Va. to Allendale, to discuss our first report on Capt. Wm. (That's part of the research "package" — a hand-delivered report and a personal follow-up conference.) Since I'm paying for this research, Andrea wanted to come here, but I told her I'm just an amateur, and that it would be much wiser to go through our report with an expert. Tommy graciously agreed to take my place. As soon as I receive my copy of the report, I will forward a copy of it to you. I am not expecting too much "juicy stuff" this first time, since so much time at the beginning of the research was wasted — spinning wheels in Dr. Ward's "junk." Again, though, we shall see what we shall see.

People are chattering so loudly here in the faculty lounge, and jiggling the table.... I'm going to sign off here and finish later.

Be well and stay in touch.

Sincerely,
Paul

BURRELL C. LAWTON
136 LA ESPINA
GREEN VALLEY, ARIZONA 85614
28 February 1989

Mr. Anthony J. Fusco
6010 McKinley Pkwy.
Hamburg, NY 14075

Deat Tony:

I am enclosing the transcript of the Church-Lawton Parish Register for the period 1559 (the beginning) to 1650, giving all the Lawton entries.

The first thing that is apparent is that there are major errors in the genealogical information contained in Ormerod's History of Cheshire.

First, William Lawton (1553-1617) did not mary, as his first wife, Mary Wood, heiress of George Wood of Balterley. He was not born until 1553, and the marriage of Mary Wood and William Lawton was on 2 Dec 1560 - he was only 7 years of age!

Second William Lawton, Rector of Church Lawton did not die unmarried. He was married to "Judith" probablu ca 1598 - and his elder brother and heir to the Manor was not born until 1606, so the Rector of Church Lawton was a younger William - possibly the William born 12 Sep 1561.

In any event, this is the first that this information has been available in this country. It is apparent that Ormerod did not have access to it when he prepared his ancestral chart.

I am awaiting an abstract of the will of William Lawton, Rector, and will then perhaps have more comment. In the meantime, I am going to study this material, and see what I can make of it.

You are free to incorporate it in the next issue of Lawton Issue. If so, I suggest that you simply make it clear that this information may be of value to anyone trying to trace descent from the Lawton family of Lawton Manor; and that this is the first time that this information has been available in this country.

With best regards,

LAWTON ENTRIES IN THE CHURCH-LAWTON PARISH REGISTER - 1559-1650

22 Apr 1560	c	Thomas Lawton
25 Sep 1560	c	Johannes Lawton
12 Sep 1561	c	Willimus Lawton
20 May 1562	c	Elizabeth Lawton
12 Mar 1564/5	c	Agnet Lawton
20 Aug 1565	c	Johanna Lawton
10 Apr 1569	c	Margeria Lawton
3 Jul 1575	c	Thomas Lawton spurius
28 Jul 1575	c	Elena Lawton
no baptisms recorded 1579-1584		
5 Mar 1585/6	c	Elena Lawton filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape et Agnet eius uscoris
22 Mar 1585/6	c	Alicia Lawton filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Greene et Alicia eius uscor
20 Jul 1586	c	Agnet Lawton filia Willimi Lawton et Ellen eius uscoris
23 Nov 1587	c	Richardus Lawton filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Greene et Alic eius uscor
21 Jun 1588	c	Alicia Lawton filia Thome Lawton et Cicel uscor eius
8 Nov 1588	c	Willimius Lawton filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape et Agnet eius uscor
15 Jul 1590	c	Margaret Lawton filia Thome Lawton et Cicel uscor eius
2 May 1591	c	Agnet Lawton filia Thome Lawton et Warber eius oscor
3 Nov 1591	c	Dorothea Lawton filia Joh(ann)is Lawton et Alicia eius oscor
5 Jan 1591/2	c	Richardus Lawton filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape et Agnet eius uscor
3 Apr 1593	c	Elenora filia Ranulphi Lawton et Katherin uscor
16 Oct 1594	c	Margaret filia T home Lawton et Warber uscor eius
27 Jul 1595	c	Edwardus filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape et Agnet uscor eius
10 Jan 1596/7	c	Joh(ann)es filius Ranulphi Lawton et Katherin eius uscor
13 Apr 1598	c	Ranulphus filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape et Agnet uscor eius
2 Sep 1599	c	Joh: filius Tho: Lawton et Worb: usc:eius
27 Jan 1599/1600	c	Jacobus filius Guilielmi Lawton, Rectoris de Lawton et Judythae uscor eius
27 Feb 1600/1	c	Sara filia Guiliel Lawton Rectoris de Lawton et Judithae uscoris eius
6 Mar 1600/1	c	Rob(er)tus filius Johis Lawton de Snape

26 Sep 1602	c	Andreas filius Guiliel: Lawton Rect: de Lawton et Judithae usc:
2 Sep 1603	c	Thomas filius Thomae Lawton et Warb.
5 Feb 1603/4	c	Thomas filius Guiliel: Lawton Rectoris et Judithae consortis eius
24 Jan 1605/6	c	Stephanus filius Guiliel: Rectoris de Lawton et Judithae usc: eius
8 Oct 1606	c	Anna filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Mole
20 May 1607	c	Maria filia Tho: Lawton usc: Armig(er)
1 Jul 1607	c	Joh(ann)es filius Will(el)mi Lawton
14 Sep 1608	c	Samuel filius Will(el)mi Lawton Rect: et Judithae uscoris eius
9 Jul 1609	c	Will(elm)us filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Wolst:
16 Sep 1610	c	Margeria filia Johis Lawton
30 Jun 1611	c	Elenora filia Will(elm)i Lawton Armiger
26 Jan 1611/2	c	Maria filia Will(elm)i Lawton de Greene
6 Jan 1612/3	c	Will(elm)us filius Will(elm)i Lawton Ar(mi)g(er)
30 Oct 1613	c	Helena filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de ewe tree
14 Jan 1613/4	c	Jana filia Joh(ann)is Lawton taylor
23 Aug 1614	c	Joh(ann)es filius Willi Lawton de Greene
11 Oct 1614	c	Rebecca filia Will(elm)i Lawton Rectoris
16 Oct 1614	c	Joh(ann)es filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Vewtree
16 Sep 1616	c	Anna filia Richardi Lawton de Batchton
31 Jan 1616/7	c	Sara filia Johis Lawton de Vewtree
30 May 1619	c	Joh(ann)es filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Vewtrie
8 Feb 1621/2	c	Ranulphus filius Johis Lawton
26 Nov 1624	c	Maria filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Rode
13 Sep 1626	c	Joh(ann)es filius Will(elm)i Lawton de Snape
19 Aug 1627	c	Martha filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Rode
30 Nov 1628	c	Elizabeth: filia Willi Lawton de Snape
17 Jan 1628/9	c	Joh(ann)es filius Ric: Lawton de Snape
9 Jan 1630/1	c	Helena filia Roberti Lawton
18 Nov 1631	c	Rob(er)tus filius Andreae Lawton
4 Mar 1631/2	c	Richardus filius Richardi Lawton
22 Jan 1632/3	c	Rad(ulph)us filius Joh(ann)is Lawton armig:
26 Jun 1634	c	Johannes filius Joh(ann)is Lawton Armig: et Clarae usc: eius
28 Jul 1635	c	Felicia filia Joh: Lawton armig: et Clarae usc: eius
27 Sep 1635	c	Tho: filius Rich(ard)i Lawton et Annae usc: eius

17 Feb 1637/8 c Elizabetha filia Rich: Lawton et Annae usc: eius

28 Jan 1648/9 c Laurentius filius Willimi Lawton de Greene

NB: William Lawton, Rector signs at foot of each page up to 1622; John Lawton, churchwarden, signs up to 1598.

There are fewer entries in the 1640s (Civil War period).

* * * * * *

8 Jun 1559 m Joh(ann)es Lawton et Anna Pigott

20 Jan 1559 m Hugo (Walton deleted) Lawton et Margeria Walton

2 Dec 1560 m Willimus Lawton et Maria Wood

14 Feb 1562/3 m Thomas Buckley et Marger. Lawton

28 Jan 1564/5 m Joh(ann)es Rowley et Agnet Lawton

No entries recorded 1565-70

3 Jun 1571 m Johannes Twamlowe et Agnet Lawton

13 Feb 1574/5 m Willimus Lawton et Elena Walton

9 Dec 1576 m Joh(ann)es Lawton et Anna Knight

No entries recorded 1579/84

26 Feb 1586/7 m Richardus Cartwright et Maria Lawton

18 Feb 1592/3 m Joh(ann)es Hancock et Margaret Lawton

8 Feb 1600/1 m Thomas Shaw } de {Wolstaton
Margareta Lawton} {Lawton

24 Nov 1601 m Joh(ann)es Poy(n)tier} de {Snt. Cheed in vil. Salop
Anna Lawton } {Lawton

5 Jun 1603 m Thomas Telright} de {Burslem
Ellen Lawton } {Sanbatche

28 May 1606 m William Harryson } de { Asburie
Joane Lawton } { Audlie

1 Jun 1608 m Joh(ann)es Lawton} de { Lawton
Katherina Wylde } { Offylde

2 May 1609 m Will(elm)us Lawton} de { Lawton
Helenora Maxfield } {

2 Jul 1615 m Will(elm)us Lawton} de { Lawton
Joana Carter } { Bartomley

28 Oct 1617 m Joh(ann)is Lawton filius Willi Lawton armig: et
Clara Snead de Burslem (by banns)

6 Jul 1640 m Georgius Bellet de Asbury generosus
Elianor Lawton de Lawton generosa

22 Feb 1640 m Robertus Smith de Asbury
Ann Lawton de Lawton

NB: Pages are signed as for baptisms; few entries in 1640.

17 Jan 1561/2	b	Eliz. Lawton
No entries recorded 1564-70		
13 May 1574	b	Ranulphus Lawton
9 Jun 1575	b	Elizabetha Lawton
No entries recorded 1579-84		
3 Nov 1585	b	Willimus Lawton
10 Sep 1586	b	Eliz: Lawton vid.
28 Feb 1587/8	b	Johanna uscot Ranulphi Lawton
18 Sep 1592	b	Thomas Lawton
19 Feb 1592/3	b	Johanna Lawton de Greene
3 Mar 1592/3	b	Ranulphus Lawton
21 May 1594	b	Thomas Lawton de Snape
15 Jun 1598	b	Margaret Lawton uscor Joh(ann)is Lawton ar.
14 Mar 1598/9	b	Johnes Lawton armig(er)
2 Sep 1599	b	Margaret filia Tho: Lawton de Wolsist
30 Nov 1601	b	Ranulphus Lawton
7 Apr 1604	b	Maria uscor Will(elm)i Lawton armig:
5 Feb 1604/5	b	Aloicia usc: Joh(ann)is Lawton de Greene
27 Jan 1606/7	b	Joh(ann)es Lawton de Greene
27 Aug 1608	b	Stephanus filius Will(elm)i Lawton Rector huius Ecclesiae
29 Nov 1613	b	Helena filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de ewetree
23 Mar 1613/4	b	Maria filia Will(elm)i Lawton de Greene
12 Feb 1614/5	b	Will(elm)us Lawton de Meere
16 Apr 1615	b	Margareta filia Johis Lawton taylor
24 Oct 1615	b	Anna uscor Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape
22 Feb 1615/6	b	Will(elm)us filius Will(elm)i Lawton armig:
20 Nov 1617	b	Willus Lawton Armiger
19 Apr 1618	b	Joh(ann)es filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Vewtree
21 Jun 1620	b	uscor Lawton de Meare
8 Jan 1623/4	b	Cicilia Lawton de Mole
19 Nov 1624	b	Ranulphus filius Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape
23 Oct 1630	b	Helena Lawton vidua de Mere
21 May 1631	b	Joh: Lawton cardmaker
22 Apr 1632	b	Sarah filia Joh(ann)is Lawton de Snape
13 Jun 1634	b	Will(el)m(us) Lawton de Mere
1 Jul 1635	b	Margar. usc Joh(ann)is Lawton p(ar)ochiae de Astbury

26 Aug 1639	b	Katherine Lawton vidua
12 Sep 1639	b	Ranulphus Lawton de Heath
3 Mar 1640/1	b	Richard Lawton
31 Mar 1641	b	Johannes Lawton
13 May 1641	b	Ann Lawton
10 Sep 1641	b	Johannes Lawton de Greene
27 Jun 1646	b	Willielmus Lawton dum viccit Rector de Lawton

NB: Pages signed as for baptisms; few entries in 1640s.

GLOSSARY

Johannes, Joh(an)is, Joh:, Johis	=	John
Willimus, Guilielmus, Will(elm)us	=	William
Agnet	=	Agnes
Johanna	=	Joan
spurius	=	illegitimate
eius uscoris, consortus eius	=	(of) his wife
Ranulphus, Ranulphi	=	Randle
filia	=	daughter
filius	=	son
Jacobus	=	James
Andreas	=	Andrew
armiger	=	esquire
Wobst, Wobstaton, Wobsist	=	Wobstanton, Staffordshire
de	=	of
Radulphus	=	Ralph
Laurentius	=	Lawrence
Snt Scheed in vil. Salop	=	the parish of St. Chad in Shrewsbury
generosus, generosa	=	gentleman, gentlewoman
huius Ecclesiae	=	of this church
vidua	=	widow
parochiae	=	of the parish
dum viscit	=	while he lived

c = Baptised or christemed

m = Married

b = buried

Coy K. Johnston
ATTORNEY AT LAW
BLACK BANKS
ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GA. 31522

(912) 638-3950

4785 Cherrywood Lane, N. E.
Atlanta, Ga. 30342
March 17, 1973

The Reverend Robert E. H. Peeples
Hilton Head Island, S. C.

T. O. Lawton, Esquire
Allendale, S. C.

Dear Bobby and Tommy:

I should like to have the carefully considered help of both of you in the development of the history of Lawtonville Baptist Church (originally organized as Pipe Creek). You may be assured I shall be grateful for your assistance, and that such help will be acknowledged.

Lawtonville Baptist Church will celebrate its 200th anniversary in March, 1975, and a committee, of which Rey W. Rhodes is chairman, has asked me to prepare the manuscript of a history of the church, covering the formation and history of Lawtonville. If we come up with an acceptable history, it will be published under hard-cover, and will run some 200 pages, and, I understand, will include a number of pictures.

You can help me, for you are not only interested in preserving local history but several members of your families have contributed a great deal to the success of the church. Indeed, one (perhaps more) gave his name to the church and community. I should like your help in this area as well as any others in which you are knowledgeable.

Now, as to some specific items:

I

There was "preaching" at Pipe Creek as early as 1763; the church was constituted in March, 1775, and admitted to the Charleston Association in 1778, under the name of "Savannah River, S. C., Church," which, by virtue of an act of incorporation (an act of the association), dated in 1787, was changed to "The Pipe Creek Church of Regular Baptists."

One, Joseph Lawton, with John Grimball and Joshua Lewis, the pastor, on February 2, 1778, presented the application for admission to the Charleston Association.

Would you give me a brief sketch of the life of Joseph Lawton? His parents? Where born, where he lived, died, children, etc.? Also, if you can, favor me with information on John Grimball? (I have suffient data on Lewis, the pastor.)

Lawtons, who were pastors of Lawtonville-Pipe Creek were: Winborn A. Lawton: 1826-30, 1852-53, 1858-79; J. A. Lawton: 1838-39 (Is it possible that the "J." should be "W."?); James S. Lawton: 1856-

57. Can you supply a sketch, in brief, on each one of these ministers?

Also, can you tell me about Col. A. J. Lawton? Is he the Alexander J. Lawton, who, in 1835, was a member of the first board of trustees of Furman Theological Institute (which later became Furman University)?

In 1848, Col. A. J. Lawton was president of the Pipe Creek Bible Society. The treasurer was James S. Lawton (presumably the James S. Lawton who was the pastor in 1856-57). In that year the society distributed 1,309 copies of the Bible.

Another Lawton, Joseph James, of Hartsville, was an outstanding Baptist, and from 1920 to 1923 president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Did he have a Lawtonville origin, or, if not, connections?

Lawtonville in the old days was seemingly a fertile ground for the development of ministers and missionaries. Some, I believe, were Lawtons, others were Willinghams, Mikells. Can you tell me about any of them?

One Willingham of whom I have a record is Robert Josiah Willingham. He was born in 1854 in Beaufort District, educated at the University of Georgia, served as pastor of churchs in Chattanooga and Memphis, and became Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and remained there until his death in 1914. It was during his tenure that the Baptists "made marked advances in the work of seminaries and publishing houses around the world." Can you identify him with Lawtonville?

Mikells were important in the early days of Lawtonville. No! My guess is there was a Mikell among the founding members of the church. You may know something of the family as identified with Lawtonville. I do not. But I suspect the Mikells were earlier communicants at Euhaw, and that the Mikells of our area descended from John Mikell, who, in 1751, was one of eight laymen signing the original articles of association, in Charleston, of the Charleston Association (which closely followed the plan of the Philadelphia Association).

To some extent the history of Black Swamp Baptist Church is tied in with Pipe Creek. It was originally a branch of Pipe Creek, but in 1786 was constituted a separate church, with eight members, and two acres of land for the church site was donated by "a member of the Robert family." In informing me, do not hesitate to allude to matters and things affecting Black Swamp; it, too, has an interesting history that should not completely disappear. Incidentally, the first "preaching" in the Pipe Creek-Black Swamp neighborhood was in 1762, by one Francis Pelot, a Huguenot originally from Purysburg who in 1746 turned Baptist, at Black Swamp

II

According to the marble tablet inset into the old Baptismal pool at Lawtonville it is stated that the Pipe Creek congregation was moved to

that site in 1852. Against the date is an old note, dated in 1936, by Miss Florence I. Lawton that the old church structure at Lawtonville was built in 1843, and formally dedicated in 1850. Her note shows that present at the dedication were the Reverends Isaac Nichols, James Sweat, Joseph Furse (Furze), and Winborn A. Lawton, apparently comprising a presbytery for that purpose. Do you know any of the circumstances of the move from Pipe Creek -- dates, etc., particularly the reasons for it?

Do you know when -- and also why -- the name of the church was changed from Pipe Creek to Lawtonville? According to the minutes of the Savannah River Association, the name change was in 1884, but apparently the church was earlier known as Lawtonville, for, in an obituary, published in Texas in 1881 upon the death of Jonas Johnston, it was stated that he was ordained by "the Lawtonville Baptist Church." I suspect that soon after the removal from Pipe Creek, the church became so well identified by the name of the village that it was soon known as Lawtonville and that a change to that name was somewhat compelled. Do you know? If not, do you agree?

It also appears from the minutes of the Savannah River Association that there was another Baptist church in the neighborhood -- Bethlehem, organized in 1835, which in 1893 became extinct, whereupon the Bethlehem membership was absorbed into the Lawtonville congregation. Do you know anything of Bethlehem? Where was the church located?

Further, do you know of the details of the occupancy of Lawtonville, and the destruction thereof, by federal troops in 1865? I understand that the church structure was left standing, but that the pews were removed and burned; also that a portion of a brick wall surrounding the cemetery was knocked down to such an extent that the remainder of the wall was later removed. Do you know any of these circumstances?

According to an article by T. Oregon Lawton, in the News and Courier of July 16, 1950, the church building was used as a hospital by the union forces, and in reconstruction days as a forum for political meetings. Can you enlarge upon these incidents?

I have examined the reports of the 20th Corps, United States Army, commanded by Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alpheus Williams and Maj. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, whose first, second and third divisions passed through Lawtonville in the period between Febrary 2nd and 8th. On the afternoon of the 2nd, the third brigade of the third division, after marching from Robertville, found Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, C. S. A., and his cavalry force slowly withdrawing from Lawtonville (where Wheeler had established his headquarters) and their ensued a brisk engagement, called a "skirmish" in Williams' report to Gen. Sherman. Several Confederate soldiers were killed. According to Williams, "with a loss to us of 1 killed and 7 wounded."

Anent the foregoing, consider this from a note by Miss Florence I. Lawton, dated in 1936, in which she quoted Charles L. Peeples (Sr.): ". . . at the rear of the old Baptist [cemetery, I suppose] there several U. S. Soldiers buried, not inside the cemetery. I know of one Union soldier buried in the cemetery. Horse Pen branch holds the graves of Six Union soldiers - that the Confederate Army made a sudden attack on this spot, killing and burying them right there. The Union soldiers had

camped there, their horses in a pen as it was near a bold stream, and easy for the horses to get water, their headquarters were nearby in Lawtonville churchyard, about ¼ mile from here [Lawtonville, I suppose]."

Uncle Charley's story may be correct, for Bvt. Maj. Gen. Williams' report to which I have referred, was dated February 3rd, at Lawtonville, the morning after his advance troops had occupied the village. They, the various units of Williams' army, were there until February 8th. The incident at Horse Pen may have occurred after the report, but if the federal dead were buried at Horse Pen, how do we account for other bodies at Lawtonville? Can you cast any light on this situation? Where is Horse Pen Branch?

III

According to the marble tablet in the baptismal pool,

LAWTONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

First organized at Pipe Creek Beaufort
District by Joseph Blake and Lady Axtel
dissenters who emigrated from Somerset-
shire England 1775 . . .

Do you know anything about the facts behind the tablet? When was it put into the pool wall? By whom? It is obviously incorrect, and the fact that it is causes me some trepidation. I think there may have been a Blake or Blakes among the founding members, but we shall never know with any degree of certainty, for the minutes of the church prior to 1865 were destroyed in the destruction of Lawtonville. We do know — from a modern map — that there is a church called "Blake Church" on the old Savannah-Augusta Road just north of the site of old Pipe Creek, some four miles below the Hampton-Allendale line, and, further, again according to Miss Florence I. Lawton, that before 1861 "John Lawton [whom she elsewhere in her notes called Uncle John] also bought Blake Plantation on Pipe Creek." Can you identify any of Blakes?

I used "obviously incorrect" with respect to the tablet. I had in mind Joseph Blake and Lady Axtel. First, Joseph Blake was Lady Axtel's son-in-law. He came to South Carolina in 1670, was governor of the province in 1690, and again just after the turn of the century. Lady Axtel, it is true, was a dissenter, a Baptist, a member of the Baptist Church in Charleston, where she died testate in 1725, devising a lot to the church for use as a place for the parsonage. If a Blake or Blakes were involved in the organization of Pipe Creek, he and she, or they, must have been their descendants or of an entirely different family. Do you have suggestions?

IV

Can you identify William H. Brisbane? He was pastor of Pipe Creek in 1833 and 1834, and was ordanined at Pipe Creek in 1830, and earlier one of the delegates, in 1826, to the association.

Apparently Brisbane left Pipe Creek to become editor of the Southern Baptist in Charleston, for in 1834 he proposed in and to the State Convention such a religious publication. In the following year the State Convention "went on record as entertaining 'a high sense of the value of the Southern Baptist, as a medium of intelligence and intercommunication, and of the services of Br. W. H. Brisbane, as Editor."

Back before 1937 I recall a very celebrated columnist, Arthur Brisbane, whose column was carried in the Hearst newspapers throughout the country. He reportedly was the highest paid newspaper man up to that time in the nation, and before becoming a columnist, I understand, he was the editor the New York American, the New York paper of Heast. I have also been told -- way back then -- that Arthur Brisbane had his origins in the old Robertville community. Was he a grandson of William H. Brisbane?

I suspect William H. Brisbane was either the son of William Brisbane or a nephew. William Brisbane may have been an early settler in the Pipe Creek area. In 1763 he, William, donated "an additional acre of land when the "neat brick" church was built for the Ashley River Church (Baptist) after the original wooden church was burned in 1762. (Ashley River Church was a few miles up-river from Charleston; it became extinct in 1785.)

Please forgive me for writing at such length and to both of you in a single letter, but my questions are common to both of you. You may be sure that any information furnished by you, whether dealing with the church or community, would be welcomed, and, indeed, appreciated by me and the committee.

With all good wishes and kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Coy

CC - Mr. Rey W. Rhodes
Estill, S. C.

P.S. Bobby, I read with interest your article in Names in South Carolina. A very good job. Also have seen the microfilm of some of your work in Ga. Archives Dept. I particularly enjoyed the Stafford account of his boyhood and his descriptions of Black Swamp church and old Robertville. I had to sell out at St. Simons Island; we simply couldn't take the bugs, mosquitos and the summer humidity.

Coy

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Church-Lawton Parish.

"LAUTUNE," (anciently called Lauton under lyme,) before and after the Conquest, was divided into two unequal portions; both of which were possessed by Godric in the time of the Confessor, and both became the property of Hugo de Mara, and occur together in the Domesday survey as follows. It may however be doubted whether one of these references does not refer to the neighbouring township of Buglawton, [which, down to a comparatively late period, was often simply called Lauton.]

"Hugo (de Mara) tenet de comite Lautune. Godric tenuit & liber homo fuit. Ibi I. hida geldabilis. Terra est III. carucatæ. Wasta est. Silva ibi I. leuvâ longa, & unâ lata, & una acra prati. Tempore Regis Edwardi, valebat XVI. solidos.

"Hugo tenet de comite Lautune. [Godric tenuit.] Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est III. carucatæ. Wasta est. Silva ibi [II. leuvis] longa, & I. lata. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat XX. solidos."

This Hugo de Mara or Fitz Norman, who was the founder of the barony of Montalt, gave Lawton to the abbey of St. Werburgh in Chester, [with the advowson of the chapel of Lawton.] The gift is recited in the general confirmation charter by earl Richard,[a] and was confirmed to the said abbey by Roger de Montalt.[b]

In the [early part of the] reign of Henry III. *one moiety* of this township was possessed by a family which bore the local name, who occur in the [c]chartulary of St. Werburgh, in numerous grants to the abbots of St. Werburgh, their superior lords. Among these grants are specified half the manerial site, the tithes and offerings, land for the abbot to make a foss in for the protection of his buildings, and other minor donations. Adam de Lawton, of this family, occurs in the time of abbot Walter (Placebeck); William, son of William de Lawton, his grandson, in the time of abbot Roger (Frend); and Ranulph, brother of this William, in the time of abbot Thomas (Capenhurst). This Ranulph had [among others,] a daughter and heiress, Cecilia, wife of Roger de Crosslegh, to whose issue [some of] the estates of her family appear to have descended.

[The descent of the moiety of the manor seems to have been from Adam de Lauton (first known ancestor) to William his son, whose son the above named William (perhaps the priest of that name), is described in Harl. MSS. 2074, as lord of the moiety of Lauton, under which description, circ. 9 Edw. I. he gives all the moiety of the town to the abbot and convent above named. He again occurs as Willms filius Willi de Lauton quondm dns de medietatis de Lauton in a release to abbot Simon of all claim to a bovate of land. Harl. MSS. 2071. He probably died issueless; but from him, or from one of the younger lines of this family, descended the Lautons of Wigland. In the Harl. MSS. however, there is a confused account of the descent of the manor of Lauton to the latter branch, who could only have possessed lands here; and in the same MSS. 2071, is a note of a license granted in the 14th century to William Lauton for his oratory of Wigland and Lauton,[d] for which there can be no good authority.

From Adam de Lauton, a younger brother of the first William son of Adam de Lauton, descended another line of this family, which also occurs in the Abbey Chartulary. Adam son of Adam, and grandson of the first

[a] Vol. I. p. 17.

[b] Harl. MSS. 1965. 24, [or fol. 27,] Chartulary of St. Werburgh. In the index to this Chartulary, Lawton is not placed in Norwych (Northwich) but Wych (Nantwich) Hundred.

[c] P. 36.

[d] Lawrence Bostock, in the pedigree of Bostock of Bostock, goes so far in his mention of the marriage of Isabel de Lauton of Wigland, to sir Raphe de Bostok, as to call her daughter of "William Lawton of Lawton, lord of Lawton and Wigland." See for the Wigland Lawtons, Vol. ii. 663.—II.

*** From the Plea Rolls:—

5 & 6 Edw. II. William son of William de Lauton, occurs in a plea.

7 & 8 Edw. II. Robert de Lauton, with Rics. de Marchulegh, surety in a suit for lands in Kingsley.

27 Edw. III. Richard de Childwell, parson of the church of Lauton, and William son of Thomas de Rode and Margery his wife, and Robert Pike, chaplain, parties to a Fine of tenements in Chirchelauton.

6 Ric. II. Thomas Cheyne, and Margaret his wife, who was the wife of Thomas le Smyth, *v.* Ralph le Smyth, & Margery his wife, for dower of a messuage, & 30 acres in Chirchelauton.

10 Hen. V. Margery who was the wife of Thomas Wolfe, *v.* Edward de Legh of Chirchelauton, and Felice his wife, for dower of 3 messuages, 100 acres of land, 20 of meadow, and a third of a moiety of a messuage, in Chirchelauton, and Rode.

9 Hen. VIII. John Laweton, clerk, occurs (as trustee?) in a Recovery of lands in Nantwich, & other places, by John Fitton, esq.; and also 19 Hen. VIII. with William Lawton (whose brother he probably was), in a recovery against the Davenports of Chorley.

From the Recognizance Rolls:—

1311. William son of William de Lauton, et al. to the Lord Ralph de Vernoun jun. in £10.

1316. Adam de Lauton, William de Wylberham, et al. to the Abbot & Convent of St. Werburgh, in £22.

1318-19. Robert de Lauton, Will. de Alsach, Tho. de Crosselegh, & Adam son of Adam de Lauton, to Will. de Burstowe, in 5 marks.

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Adam de Lauton, appears to have been father of Richard de Lauton (living temp. Hen. III. and Edw. I.), a witness to various charters, including one of the Moretons, mentioned by Flower in his pedigree of Lauton. In the Harl. Coll. is the abstract of a settlement, dated 3 Edw. III. by which Ricus filius Rici de Lauton dedi Rico filio meo et Cicelie fit Willmi de Astburie uxori dci Rici t'ras in Lauton, &c. (Addonal. MSS. 6032.) From this marriage it is believed descended the second and existing line of the family, as will presently be seen.]

With respect to the *other moiety* [of the manor,] (which [if it could be shown that it had been granted out,] must also have been held under Chester abbey), it appears from a laboured pedigree of the Davenports, drawn from original evidences (Harl. MSS. 2119), that Robert de Davenport, younger son of Vivian de Davenport, settled on lands in Lawton, 56 Hen. III. and assumed the local name. The pedigree states him to be ancestor of the Lawtons of Lawton, and the assertion is borne out strongly by the armorial bearings of the Lawtons, which differ only from those of Davenport in the substitution of a fesse charged with a cinquefoil for the Davenport chevron. [These arms seem to have been substituted for a coat of earlier date, in which appear the chevron and two of the three cross crosslets of the Davenports, the third charge, in base, being a dolphin, for difference, taken from the bearings of the original family of the local name, who bore a chevron between three dolphins.[a] But as to this "*second moiety*" of the manor descending as above indicated, there is not only no evidence to show that it had ever been granted out, but on the contrary, it is quite clear that the abbey held this moiety in hand from the earliest times, and that it passed with the other moiety granted to the abbot by William de Lauton, down to the time of the dissolution of the abbey as hereafter mentioned. There is no evidence whatever that Robert de Davenport either "assumed" the local name or even had lands here. But the male line of descent of the present family of Lawton from the Davenports is now almost put beyond a doubt by the following grant, probably in frank-marriage, from the father of the last mentioned Richard de Lauton of the original family of that name: [a]"Sciant, &c. quod ego Ricardus de Lauton dedi, &c. Thome filio Jordani de Davenport et Agnete filie Ricardi Lauton filii mei totum illud messuagium meum, &c. Testibus Galfridus Byron, Rob. Tuchet, jun. Will. de Astbury, Adam de Knypsley, &c." William de Astbury, witness to this charter, there is reason to suppose, was maternal grandfather of this Agnes de Lauton. But it is noticeable that in the pedigree of Astbury, Somerford, and Oldfield, John de Astbury, son evidently of this William, is given as husband of "Ellen daughter and heir of Jordan de Davenport," 9 Edw. III. This is most probably incorrect as to the heirship, at least by *descent;* and, as very often the case with the genealogists, it is most likely that the conclusion was jumped at in consequence of some gift in francmarriage or settlement in tail. These marriages bring down the descent of the Lawton estate here to about the middle of the reign of Edward the Third.]

There is nevertheless a [now very small, if any] chasm from this period to the reign of Henry VI. when [it cannot however be said that] the [later] Lawton pedigree commences, [when, in fact, in that reign a second descent had been cast,] and [from which the pedigree] proceeds in an unbroken chain. [For there can be no manner of doubt that Hugh de Lauton, the first acknowledged ancestor of this line, was an adult and living about the end of the reign of Edw. III.[b] and everything short of absolute proof, is in favour of his being the direct issue of Thomas de Davenport, who most likely occurs often enough as Thomas de Lauton, but who cannot be distinguished from others of the earlier family of that name. The identity of the 14th century and some of the 15th century members is rendered very perplexing from the numerous diverging lines of descent, through which the genealogist will have great difficulty in threading his way. Early divisions and subdivisions of the paternal estates established several yeomanry families, and one of these in particular, the Lawtons of Snape, continued to reside in this township from the days of Edw. II. down to about the end of the last century.[c] But as affording some further and not inconsiderable evidence of the descent of the present family, their estate in the neighbouring township of Alsager may perhaps be traced from Adam de Lauton and Alice his wife (qy. an Alsager), who 26 Edw. I. were sued for dower of 24 acres of land in that township; and in 2 Edw. II. Adam son of Adam de Lauton was also sued for dower there. There cannot, perhaps, be very much doubt of the identity of this estate with part of that which occurs in ampler form in the only two extant Inqs. of the family; but the Lautons of Wigland[d] appear also as proprietors in Alsager, and a difficult question is thus raised as to whether this small estate passed from this Adam partly to the Lautons of Wigland and partly to the Davenport Lawtons. A Thomas de Lauton, possibly identical with Thomas son of Jordan (though scarcely probable), may be mentioned as occurring in the Recog. Rolls, 18 Ric. II. with William de Brereton, jun. for the farm of a moiety of Malpas church; and who seems also to have held lands of the Bretons within the

1325-'6. John son of Adam de Lauton, Adam de Lauton, Adam his son, et al. to the Earl in 4 marks.

1326. Adam de Lauton & Adam his son, to the Earl in 26s. 8d.; also in 1328 Adam the son to John de Wrennebury in 16 marks; and in 1329 the same, with William de Alsager, John de Laddissone, and Alice who was wife of Adam de Lauton, to John de Wrennebury, sheriff, in £8 13s.

1377. William son of Richard de Lauton, John de Lauton, Tho. de Chedle, et al. grantees of pardons by Richard, Prince of Wales, on finding sureties to keep the peace towards the abbot and convent of Vale Royal.

1396. Beatrice wife of Richard de Lauton of Chirchemunshull, lessee of tenements there.

1397. Randle de Lauton, appointed an archer of the livery of the Crown, with 6d. a day for life; and in 1398, David de Lauton had a similar grant.

1399. William and Thomas de Lauton were appointed conservators of the peace in the Hundred of Broxon.

1406. Robert de Lauton, with Peter de Bulkelegh of Chedle, appointed a Commissioner for the seizure of all merchandize passing through the Hundred of Broxon for the purpose of being sold to the rebels. And in the same Hundred, Henry de Lauton was appointed collector of a fine.—H.

[a] From an Elizabethan MSS. Volume penes Mr. R. Wood, of Manchester, and obligingly communicated by Dr. Renaud, F.S.A. of Manchester.—H.

[b] Circ. 1330-'40. Robert son of Hugh de Lauton grants to Thomas his brother, son of the said Hugh, the land of Crouther in Wich Malbank; test. Rob. fil. Magri, &c. Thomas, son of Hugh, in the reign of Edw. III. gave the same land to his son Hugh; test. Hugh de Fouleshurst. Harl. MSS. 2022, fo. 126. These must refer to some collateral branch; also Thomas de Lauton, vicar of Eastham, 1332, and Roger de Lauton, rector of Thurstaston, 1327.—H.

[c] Information and evidences of the family communicated by Dr. Renaud.—H.

[d] But it is nevertheless not improbable that the Lauton of Wigland estate, or part of it, was purchased by the present family about the time of Hen. VIII. from either the Bostocks or the Savages, to whom it had passed by heirship. This inference is drawn from the fact of an ancient copy of the Inq. p. m. of sir John Savage being among the muniments of the Lawtons.—H.

barony of Malpas, and occurs as a juror as late as 8 Hen. IV.[a]

I. Hugh de Lauton (presumed son and heir of Thomas fitz Jordan de Davenport) may, perhaps, be identified as one of the archers of the principality of Wales, appointed an archer of the livery of the crown, Nov. 5, 21 Ric. II. He appears to have married Isabell, daughter of John Madoc, or Maddock, and widow of Bekynge Bernys, or Barnes, and to have had issue Hugh de Lauton, eldest son, who died issueless; John de Lauton, second son;[b] Isabell, wife of —— Dod; and Amice, wife of —— Shelton. He died before his wife, who seems to have succeeded to the estate, most probably under a settlement upon her and her husband, and to the survivor of them, for life.

II. John de Lauton, son of Hugh, married Beatrice, widow of Thomas Madoc, and held the office of bailiff, at Lawton, of the abbot and monks of St. Werburgh, at an annual stipend of 6s. 8d. the entire revenue of the manor then being £10 14s. 10d. On the dissolution of the monastery, sir William Brereton was bailiff. This John Lauton held the office from 1413 to 1434 (qy. 1429), and was probably thirty years of age in the former year. A compotus of his, dating from 10 Hen. V. to 8 Hen. VI. gives his wife's name, and mentions the payment of 6s. 8d. p. a. to the rector of Lawton church. A branch, it is presumed, of the family of Lees of Lees, held land in Lawton, temp. Hen. V. and 5 Hen. IV. Margaret del Leges occurs (Harl. MSS. 2038) as late wife of John de Lauton, in a settlement of lands by her in Sydinton, to which Nicholas de Davenporte was a witness. It is possible that this John was really the son of the above named Hugh de Lauton, and father of John, the bailiff; but the difficulty already mentioned (in the existence of the collateral line of Snape and other descendants of the early lords), renders the adoption of this theory impossible. John, son of Hugh de Lauton, appears to have died in the lifetime of his mother, having had, perhaps among other issue, John Lauton, who died issueless; Richard Lauton, apparently heir to the family estate; and Agnes Lauton.

III. Richard Lauton, on the decease of his grandmother, Isabel Maddock, seems to have succeeded to the property, as heir either to his father, or his brother, or, at all events, under the presumed entail. In 31 Hen. VI. an action in detinue occurs in the Plea Rolls by Laurence Thiknesse against Richard Lauton, of Chirchlauton, yomon, which again perhaps introduces us to one of the line of Snape. Richard Lauton of Lauton occurs 12 Edw. IV. in an Award[c] made at Lauton, Jan. 6, by Thomas Swetenham of Swetenham, of lands in Bartomley, in a case of disputed ownership between this Richard and Hugh Pole. The award was in favour of the latter, subject to a payment of 13 marks to Lauton, "as a mark of the inward love and faithful friendship they were to bear towards each other," and not as the Award states, as a matter of profit. Richard Lauton again occurs, 16 Edw. IV. as commissioned to collect a subsidy in the Hundred of Northwich, with Thomas Knottesford, and others. He had issue

IV. John Lauton of Lauton (erroneously called James, in the pedigrees), who was most probably the controller, of that name, of all fines, amercements, &c. received before the justice of Chester, for life, 2 Ric. III.; and there can be little doubt that out of this and other offices, of which he was most likely farmer, he created very considerable wealth. He also appears to be identical with John Lauton, who, with William Tatton, was surety for a Welshman, Tudor ap Ithel ap David, lessee of lands in Wales, 1 Hen. VII. He further occurs as co-surety for Thomas, abbot of Basingwerk, lessee of escheated lands in Flintshire, 2 Hen. VII. All these latter facts are of much support to the early part of the pedigree, giving to it a consistency that is of much value. This John Lauton is stated to have married Eleanor More, of Hall o' th' Heath, a neighbouring hamlet. Hall o' Heath, now a farm house, anciently a residence of the Hethes passed to the Mores by marriage. The coat of the latter family was "Ermine a fesse Gules between three moor cocks proper; and not, as has been supposed, Argent, a moor's head in fesse between three fleurs de lis Sable."[d] The son and heir of John Lauton was William Lauton, who will presently be mentioned as purchaser of the manor with which his ancestors had for so many centuries been connected, as lords and bailiffs.]

The capital rights [and, in fact, as already shown, the whole manor itself] continued vested in the abbot of Chester, who in his plea 31 Edw. III. claims to have court-leet and view of frank-pledge at his manor house of Lawton, and had free warren in his demesne lands here, by grant from Edw. I.

After the dissolution the manor and the patronage of the church were purchased from the crown 33 Hen. VIII. by William Lawton of Lawton,[e] [for the sum of £232. 14s. 2d.

V. William Lawton of Lawton (son of the before mentioned John Lawton) was grantee by the king's letters patent of "tot' dominiu' ac vill et man' de Churchlawton" (together with the advowson aforesaid); and the general words show the grant to be perfectly co-extensive with the well-ascertained rights of the abbots in every age since at least the days of William, lord of Lawton mediety; such as "courts baron, views of francpledge, the assizeing, assaying, and levying of fines on bread, wine, and wheat, with right of free warren, heriots," and all other general words which came to be used at that period *in the conveyance of a*

[a] He was, however, most likely the same with Thomas de Lauton of Stokton (who with Huxleghs and others of the Hundred of Broxon, occur in a recog. 1396), and if so, there can be no doubt of his being a collateral of the first line of Lauton.—H.

[b] 5 Hen. VII. Hugh Lauton, late of Chirchelawton yomon, son of John Lawton, occurs in the Plea Rolls (*memb.* 18), in an indictment for having with many others, on Monday next after the Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, 3 Hen. VII. at Chirchlawton in a tenement and 16 acres entered and disseized one John Smyth of Congleton, vi et armis. The said Hugh pleaded that one Thomas Lawton was seized, &c. and gave the same by the name of all his messuage, land, &c. in Lauton, to John Lawton his son, in tail; with remainder to Agnes daughter of the said Thomas, in tail; with remainder to John Lawton, son of Thomas Lawton of Lawton Lidʒate, in tail; with remainder to his (the settlor's) own right heirs. John son of the said Thomas the settlor, entered & ob. s. p.; the said Agnes entered and ob. s. p. after whose death John Lawton son of Thomas of L. Lidʒate entered, and of the same was seized in his demesne as of fee tail; and so being seized the same demised to the same Hugh Lawton (the defendant) on the Monday next after the Feast of Corpus Christi 1 Hen. VII. at Chirchelawton, for 8 years, and the same Hugh entered and expelled the said John Smyth.

It is observable from this piece of evidence, that with the exception of one name (Thomas instead of John), it partly concurs with the corresponding descents in the annexed pedigree; but there can be no doubt that it refers to the family of Lawton of Snape, then, and for long afterwards, the only known surviving male heirs of the original lords of the mediety of Lawton.—H.

[c] The original at Lawton Hall.—H.

[d] Communicated by Dr. Renaud, F.S.A.—H.

[e] Williamson Vill. Cest. [and original grant penes William John Percy Lawton of Lawton, esq.—H.

manor. It was granted to be held of the king, in capite, by knight's service, viz. by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and the annual payment into the king's exchequer of 24s. 4d. (*sic*), and 7s. p. a. to the rector of the church. It has been suggested that this William's first wife was Mary, a daughter (and co-heir) of Ralph Birkenhead of Crowton; but as her mother married secondly, George Wood, justice of Chester, whose daughter married this William Lawton's grandson William, as hereafter mentioned, it is in the highest degree improbable; and we must look elsewhere, probably to one of William Lawton's brothers for the husband of this lady, particularly as there appears to be no evidence of his baptismal name. See Done and Birkenhead of Crowton pedigree.]

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. William Lauton, gent. held the manor of [Churchelauton,] with court-leet and free-warren in the same, and the advowson of the church of Church-Lawton; [also 12 mess. 12 cotts. one water mill, 1000 acres of land, 200 of mead. 50 of past. 50 of common and turbary, 40 of waste, heath, &c. 50 of land covered with water, 50 of wood and underwoods, and 6s. 1d. frankrent, in Churchelauton, lately of the monastery, &c.] from the king in capite, by [knight's] service, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and the render of XXIVs. [and IXd.] per ann. Val. XII. XS. VIIId. p. a.; also [a chief messuage and 4 other mess. 4 cotts. 50 acres of] lands, [300 of pasture, 100 of mead. 40 of wood, and underwood, 10 of land covered with water, uno miner' carbonu', & unu' fabric' vocat' ablome Smythe, 100 acres of moss, moor, and turbary, 100 acres of heath, &c.] in Churchelawton, [all specified in the Letters Patent of the king and held of him in socage by fealty, also a cottage, garden, an acre of land, and 2s. frankrent in the same town; also 40 acres of pasture, 20 of wood and underwood, and 40 of moor, heath, and turbary, in] Alsager, [of total] Val. IXl. XIs. p. a. He died Dec. 28, 5 Edw. VI. John Lawton son and heir, [aged 32 years.

VI. John Lawton also like his father acquired considerable property, chiefly by purchase. The manerial estate of Trubshaw, in Tunstall, co. Stafford, passed into his hands, 1 Phil. and Mary, by mortgage, from Thomas Trubshaw of Trubshaw; and it seems to have been a property of small acreage, but of much mineral wealth, and included in the under-mentioned Inq. This John Lawton also occurs with Charles Maynwaryng, and others, as collector of a mise in Northwich in 1559-60. By the Calendar of Pleadings, 20 Eliz. he was a defendant with George Rowley (in right of Lord Audley), the Lord Bathe, and others, at the suit of the attorney-general, respecting lands in Wolstanton, Tunstall, and Wedgwood, in Staffordshire; and was plaintiff in an action, 27 Eliz. against Hugh Eaton, touching lands in Over Whitley, and Halton barony. The settlement referred to in the next Inq. seems also to have included lands in Laleham, (qy. Littleton), and Brixton, in Middlesex.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. John Lawton of Lawton, esq. Seized of the manor and town of Church Lawton, and advowson of the Church, together with all the lands, and held as mentioned in the preceding Inq. Val. p. a. £11 10s. 8½d.; also the manor of Balterley, co. Stafford, and lands therein, and in Tunstall, co. Staff.; also lands in the parish of Littleton,[a] co. Middlesex; 4 messuages in Holburne within the parish of St. Giles in the fields, and 5 messuages in the parish of St. Clements Danes, without the new Temple barr, London, co. Middlesex, and settled same by Indenture, 17 Oct. 29 Eliz. in tail male. Total val. p. a. £27 18s. 4d. (including this manor). Obiit apud Church Lawton octavo die Martij ultimo, Willmus Lawton est filius et heres propinquior & etatis quadragint' sex annor' et amplius.

VII. William Lauton of Lawton, esq. is said to have married to his first wife Mary, daughter and heir of George Wood of Balterley, esq. justice of Chester, 1557, of a family who for a considerable period held the manor of Balterley, and from whom it is supposed to have passed to William Lawton's father, under the terms of some agreement on this marriage. (The manerial rights of Balterley, and the small landed estate attached were sold in 1800 by John Lawton, esq. for £300.) William Lawton appears to have died in 1617, and left issue by his second wife a son and heir

VIII. John Lawton of Lawton, esq. a minor, whose wardship was vested in Ralph Sneyde of Keele, esq. to whose daughter he was married. Being early involved in the politics of the times he seems to have compromised himself by some breach of fealty, and did not receive seizin of his estates until June 19, 1632, when he had a special Livery, which embraced in its terms any acts of his own or of his father, contrary to the service which they respectively owed to the king. But in 1647 Mr. Lawton appears to have been once more involved, and in that year compounded for his estates, at Goldsmith's Hall, in the sum of £680, when he received a further pardon under the Great Seal, for levying war against the king from May 20, 1642, and previously. He added to the family estates by purchase, and acquired the Snape property in 1654, from John Lawton of Snape, by way of exchange for other lands. He was succeeded on his death, in 1654-5, by his son and heir

IX. William Lawton of Lawton, esq. who became a staunch cavalier, although his youth must have precluded him from taking for any long period a very active part in the warfare of the times. He had, however, to compound with the Parliament in the sum of £680, whilst his remote kinsman of Snape, paid £50 in the same royal cause. No better example, perhaps, in this county exists of the uncertainty of the fortunes of those days; but something is traceable, no doubt, to the position in which this William's father was left at an early age at such a period. Before the Restoration it appears (from a probable tradition, particularly considering the situation of the house and the necessity of avoiding the residence of a more conspicuous royalist), that King Charles the Second was concealed in the Hall of Lawton for some time, during which period he stood sponsor at the baptism of his host's "eldest son," who, if the same, was born in 1656, which would about fix the date of the royal visit. The drinking-cup presented by the king to his godchild on that occasion (with the remark that he had nought else to offer), is still in existence, but the mother of the infant heir in her widowhood having removed it from Lawton, through family intermarriages the relic finally passed into the hands of the earls of Longford. A curiously carved boxwood snuff-box, bearing the royal arms and cipher, and as a memento of the occasion, the coat of Lawton, was also left by the afterwards Merry Monarch, at Lawton, where it still remains. Subsequently the king appears to have presented to the family his own portrait by Lely, and that of the duke of Monmouth, by the same master, both of which are preserved at Lawton. William Lawton was appointed

[a] The Littleton property evidently, by this Inq. formed part of the abbey estate, as it appears to have passed by the patent of Hen. VIII.—H.

sheriff of Cheshire, Dec. 13, 23 Car. II. He added to his estates by purchase, and whether acquired by him or not is uncertain, held Betley, in Staffordshire, or some manerial interest in it, which was afterwards sold, in 1718. This William died in 1693, leaving by his wife, Hester Longueville,

X. John Lawton of Lawton, esq. by whose first wife, Ann, sister of the first earl of Halifax, and daughter of the honourable George Montague (younger son of Henry, first earl of Manchester), he had ten children, of whom John, the eldest surviving son, must have succeeded to the estates, and of whom it remains briefly to speak before the conclusion of this account. John Lawton, esq. the son, was returned to Parliament as Member for Newcastle-under-Line. No account is given in the pedigrees of his marriage;* but there is a statement in the pedigree of Moreton of the marriage of sir William Moreton, whose wife Jane is identified by Dr. Renaud, as widow of this John Lawton. To what family she belonged (though it is unimportant to this history to enquire, since Robert, the half brother of this John, undoubtedly succeeded to the estates), there is no evidence to show, beyond a hatchment to sir William Moreton, formerly in Astbury church, which, according to Dr. Renaud's account (supposing the coat did not belong to some other wife of sir William Moreton), bore a shield of pretence quartering Jones.[a]

The second wife of John Lawton, the father, was Mary, daughter of Edward Longueville, esq. and widow of sir Edward Longueville, her cousin. The latter was killed by a fall from his horse, as was his father, sir Thomas Longueville, the brother of the before-named Hester, mother of this John Lawton. The son, and ultimately, heir of John Lawton, by Mary Longueville, namely Robert Lawton of Lawton, esq. shared a much similar fate, having, in 1777, whilst acting as steward of Newcastle races, been killed by the kick of a horse, whilst in conversation with a group of friends.[b]]

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of property from this period to the present time. A court-leet and court-baron are [no longer] held for the manor.[c]

Lawton-hall is a handsome and spacious building of brick [standing on a natural terrace]; the offices are disposed as wings. [Its architecture is chiefly of the reigns of Jac. I. and Geo. II. New wings were built about half a century since; and the interior of the house has undergone several alterations within that period. A small oak-pannelled dining-room is said to have been used as a bed-chamber by Charles the Second, and must therefore have formed part of the older residence. Beneath a passage leading from the lesser drawing-room to the library, exists an apartment (approached by a trap-door), to which tradition points as the hiding-place of that monarch, who has already been referred to as having taken refuge here sometime before his accession to the throne. The pictures in Lawton-hall of interest are chiefly portraits. Those by sir Peter Lely of Charles the Second and the duke of Monmouth (which have been mentioned in these pages as presentation portraits), hang in the large dining-room. There are others of sir Edward Longueville, and Mary his wife, and of her son, Robert Lawton, esq. In the library are two small full-length paintings of Charles Crewe of Warmincham, esq. and Sarah his wife, daughter and heiress of John Bourne of Chell. One by Romney of Mrs. Crouch, and another of John, first lord Crewe, may be mentioned; and among several other family portraits is that of Anne Crewe widow of John Lawton, esq. who is represented as holding in her hand a scroll inscribed "Rights recovered," which is chiefly interesting as commemorative of an incident which occurred in 1809, by which the courage and presence of mind of this lady led to the security of a portion of the estates of the family, which otherwise would have been lost.[d]]

In front of the house is a sheet of artificial water, (about a third of a mile in length,) and the grounds extend to the parish church at the back of the mansion. The natural surface of the country in the immediate neighbourhood possesses considerable undulations, and in the distance of a very few miles rises into the wild chain of hills which form the boundary of the county. The appearance of the greater part of these are naked and monotonous, but the view is agreeably varied with a wooded hill in Staffordshire on the right, and the artificial ruins and plantations on Mole Cop on the other side of the prospect. [The mineral wealth of Lawton is considerable, and consists of coal, ironstone, and salt, which have been worked for many generations; and some time ago an extensive contract (subsequently abandoned), was entered into for the pumping of brine up a shaft purposely sunk here, for conveyance by pipes from two to three miles, into Staffordshire, where there were conveniences for its conversion into salt.

Lawton Lidgate, situated on the borders of this township, and which barred the road into Staffordshire, belonged to the earldom, and was frequently farmed out, among other lessees, by several of the early members of the ancient family of Lawton.[e]]

* He is said to have married "Mrs. Cooper, a widow gentlewoman, of £30,000 fortune," in July 1733. "He was clerk of the securities of the Excise office, and afterwards, Teller of the Exchequer. His ancestress was lady Hester Temple, of Stowe, who died in 1654, having had twelve children, and lived to see 700 descendants from h[illegible] own body." He died June 7 (*sic*) 1740. *Gentleman's Magazine* and *Historical Register*.—H.

[a] Of the Ranelagh family, apparently. The first quarter appears, from a rough sketch, to be 3 bars gemelles, with 4 Ermine spots in chief. A note will be found in the Addenda at the end of this volume should the name of the presumed heiress (the bearer of this coat), in the meantime be discovered.—H.

[b] To complete the chapter of accidents, it may be mentioned that in 1721, June 13, Charlewood Lawton of Northampton (cousin of the above-named Robert), died by a fall from his horse in a fit of apoplexy; and in 1833, William Lawton (great-grandson of Robert), was killed in a bone-mill, having become entangled in the machinery. I am indebted for this, and a variety of interesting information, to Dr. Renaud, F.S.A. of Manchester, and Alderley, whose lucid and able compilation of a history in MS. of this family has also been of much valuable assistance.—H.

[c] Information of C. B. Lawton, esq.

[d] For many years previous to the date mentioned, the Lawton estates became seriously charged, chiefly through negligence, of which the then steward took advantage. Some parts of the property were alienated, and the whole greatly deteriorated. In 1809, five years after the death of Mr. John Lawton, the steward (whose dishonesty had led to this state of affairs) was found dead in his office chair, with all his papers spread around him. The lady represented in the picture (Mr. Lawton's widow), on being informed of the event immediately proceeded to the steward's house, entered the office where the dead steward sat, and locking herself in the room, secured the whole of the papers, which eventually led to the "recovery of certain rights," (more especially relating to colliery leases of great value), which by connivance and fraud practised during a long series of years, were in imminent danger of sharing the fate of other parts of the property. She died in 1810, aged 63 years.—H.

[e] A list of these farmers will be found in a note at p. 20.—H.

LAWTON OF LAWTON.

From [the chartulary of the abbey of St. Werburgh, and family documents (abstracted by Frank Renaud, esq. M.D.), the Plea and Recog. Rolls, and Inqs.] a pedigree roll by Dugdale, [apparently copied down to the year 1590, from one by Glover, now at Lawton Hall,] collated with Booth's pedigrees, and continued from the information of the family and the Lawton registers.

ARMS. Argent, a fesse Sable between three cross crosslets of the second, on the fesse a cinquefoil Argent. [The original coat, however, was Or, a chevron between two cross crosslets in chief, Gules, and a dolphin in base, Azure,[a] being a combination of the coats of the early Lautons and the Davenports. The mantle of the present coat, given in the annexed engraving, is copied from the Arms of the family, carved on a snuff-box formerly of Car. II.]

CREST. On a wreath a demi-wolf rampant Argent, licking a wound in the right shoulder, Gules.

[ARMS. Or, a chevron between three dolphins Gules, for Lauton ancient.

* ADAM DE LAUTON, lord of Lauton mediety, living temp. John, and Hen. 3.

- * ADAM DE LAUTON, son of Adam, held lands in Lauton, living temp. Hen. 3. = ..., daughter of .....
- WILLIAM DE LAUTON, lord of Lauton mediety, living temp. John; held the chief house of Lauton, and the fishery; grantee of his father, A°D. 1236; benefactor of the Abbey of St. Werburg, Chester, and quit-claimed the advowson of the chapel; living 50 Hen. 3, temp. Rob. de Hoxlegh, sheriff. = ...
- ROBERT DE LAUTON.

- * ADAM DE LAUTON, son of Adam, grantee of lands in Lauton, of the Crosseleghs, living 26 Edw. 1, and 2 Edw. 2. = ALICE, qy. 2d wife, living 26 Edw. 1.
- WILLIAM DE LAUTON, son of Adam, quitclaimed to Chester Abbey the advowson of the church, grantee of William, son of William the chaplain of Lauton, of lands in Lauton, circ. 1270–80.
- WILLIAM DE LAUTON (qy. a priest, and chaplain of Lauton), lord of Lauton mediety, which he granted to the abbey of Chester, and quitclaimed the advowson of the chapel, circ. 9 Edw. 1 (*sic*), living between the years 1240 and 1289; qy. ob. s. p.
- HENRY DE LAUTON, als. DE LE SNAPE, als. CARPENTER, of Snape in Lauton. = PHILIP DE LAUTON, occurs as living between 1265 and 1289. = ...
  - qy. ADAM DE LAUTON, circ. 1280.
- RANULF DE LAUTON, son of William, quits claim to the abbot of Chester of Crossley's and Rode's grants, and also of the advowson of the chapel, and of the aqueduct of Lauton, to abbot Roger, between 1240 and 1249. = ...

- ADAM DE LAUTON, a monk of Chester Abbey, 32 & 33 Edw. 1, and 1312.
- JOHN DE LAUTON, 20 Edw. 2. Recog. Ro. ROBERT DE LAUTON, held lands in Lauton.
- * RICHARD DE LAUTON, son of Adam, held lands in Lauton, a benefactor of Chester Abbey, to which he granted his share of the aqueduct of Lauton, temp. abbot Simon, circ. 1280. = ..., daughter of .....
- WILLIAM DE LAUTON, son of William, 5 Edw. 2. Recog. Ro. qy. ancestor of Lauton of Wigland.
- MALKE, (qy. identical with Matild), fil. Ranulf' de Lauton, granted lands in Lauton to two priests, who granted them to the abbey.
  - WILLIAM, son of Malke.
- MATILD, wife of Richard de Hanchericke (qy. Aschenchalgh), daughter of Ranulf (and qy. coheir), grantee of lands in Lauton from her nephew Thomas de Crosslegh.
- CECILY, daughter of Ranulf (and qy. coheir), held lands in Lauton, benefactress of the abbey, and in her widowhood granted lands to abbot Simon of St. Werburg's. = ROGER DE CROSSELEGE (in Buglawton), gave a moiety of the aqueduct, and lands in Lauton, to Simon the abbot.

- * RICHARD DE LAUTON, son of Richard, held lands in Lauton, 3 Edw. 3. = ..., daughter of .....
- ROBERT DE CROSSELEGE, clerc, between 1265 and 1289, granted lands in Lauton to abbot Simon.
- RALPH DE CROSSELEGH.
- ROGER DE CROSSELEGE, (qy. als. le Palmer).
- THOMAS DE CROSSELEGE, son of Roger, grants lands in Lauton to Adam, son of Adam de Lauton. = ...

- * RICHARD DE LAUTON, with his wife, grantee of lands from his father in Lauton. Occ. 11 Edw. 3. Pl. Ro. = CICELY, daughter of William de Astbury, 3 Edw. 3.
- WILLIAM DE LAUTON, son of Richard, Recog. 51 Edw. 3.[b]
- ADAM DE CROSSELEGH, 5 & 6 Edw. 2. Pl. Ro. = ...
  - ALICE DE CROSSELEGH, levied a fine of lands in Chirchelauton, 7 Edw. 3.]

- * AGNES DE LAUTON, daughter of Richard, and with her husband, grantee of a messuage in Lauton from her grandfather Richard, temp. Edw. 3.] = THOMAS, son of Jordan de Davenport, and probably great-grandson of Vivian, lord of Davenport.

[a] Information of Dr. Renaud, F.S.A., from an Elizabethan MSS. volume, penes Mr. R. Wood of Whalley Range, near Manchester, in whose possession is also an ancient pedigree with the following heading, which is good secondary evidence of the early descents:—"Nonnuella Cestrescyrensium Scuta Gentilitia ex variis reverendæ antiquitatis et autoritatis monumentis descripta seqũntur.

"That wch followeth ys copied out of a broade booke of parchmente, wch booke sometyme belonged to Marche King of Armes in ye tyme of Kyng Edward the 4 after ye Conquest, but nowe in this p'sent yeare of o' Lord 1588 remayneth in the handes of Robert Cooke Esquire Clarencieulx King of Armes and principall herald of the South p'te of this realme of England." Cooke also says "Lawton of Lawton, on a fess between 3 cross crosses a flower, but the ancient arms of Lawton are a chevron between 2 cross crosses in chief goules, and a dolphin in base blue"; and the Crest, "a demi wolf rampant silver, licking a wound on his shoulder goules"; which is probably a grant of about the time of Hen. VIII.—II.

[b] 51 Edw. III. Assia mortis ancet' quam Willis de Lauton senior in cur' dñi Regis hic arrayi v'sus Willm de Lauton marchal & Beatricem uxẽm. ius de tenẽ in Chirchelauton, &c. *Mem.* 16. Ricus de Lauton also occurs *Mem.* 21, *Pl. Ro.* 51 Edw. III. and 1 Ric. 2.—II.

- ..... — Hugh de Lauton, qy. an archer of the Principality of Wales, and appointed an archer of the livery of the Crown, 21 Ric. 2. Recog. Ro. — Isabell, daughter of John Madoc, and widow of Bekyn Bernys.
  - Hugh de Lauton, [eldest son,] o. s. p.
  - John de Lauton, [bailiff of Lauton for the abbey of St. Werburgh, 10 Hen. 5 to 8 Hen. 6,] died before his mother. — [Beatrice, widow of Thomas Maddock.]
    - John Lauton, o. s. p.
    - Richard Lauton of Lauton, gent. heir to his grandmother, [and living temp. Hen. 6, and 16 Edw. 4.] — ....., daughter of .....
      - [John] Lauton [of Lauton, gent. qy. controller of fines, &c. 2 Ric. 3, living 2 Hen. 7.] — Alionor, daughter of Matthew More of the Hall o'th' Hethe.
        - William Lawton of Lawton, [gent. grantee by letters patent, 33 Hen. 8, of the manor of Church-Lawton,] obiit Dec. 28, 5 Edw. 6, [Inq. 6 Edw. 6.] — Katharine, daughter of Thos. Bellot of Moreton, [esq.]
          - 1. Anne, widow of Robert Corbet of Hatherton, s. p.
          - John Lawton of Church-Lawton, [esq. son and heir, æt. 32, 6 Edw. 6,] living 1580, [ob. 8 March, 1598, Inq. 41 Eliz.] — 2. Margaret, daughter of Fulke Dutton of Chester.
            - Mary, daughter and heiress of George Wood of Barterley, [esq. justice of Chester, ob.] s. p. — William Lawton of Lawton, esq. [æt. 46, 41 Eliz. occurs] 1613, and ob. 1617.] — Mary, daughter of ..... Maxfield of Chesterton, co. Staff. 2d wife, [ob. 1604.]
              - John Lawton of Lawton, esq. [son and heir,] aged 7 years 1613, died Feb. 1, 1654-5. — Clare, daughter of Ralph Sneyd of Keel, co. Staff. esq.
                - William Lawton of Lawton, esq. [sheriff of Cheshire, 1671, app. Dec. 13,] æt. 33. Sept. 4, 1663, died Sept. 9, 1693. — Hester, second daughter of sir Edward Longueville of Wolverton, bart. by Margaret, daughter of sir Thos. Temple of Stowe, co. Bucks, died May 30, 1703.
                  - Anne, daughter of the hon. George Montague, younger son of Henry, first earl of Manchester, and sister of Charles, first earl of Halifax, died July 1, 1717, first wife. — John Lawton of Lawton, esq. son and heir, baptized May 7, 1656, died June 10, 1736. — Mary, dau. of Edward Longueville, esq. and relict of sir Edward Longueville, bart.
                    - 1. William Lawton, baptized May 25, 1684, died s. p. 1714.
                    - 2. Edward Lawton of Lawton, esq. married Charlotte, daughter of William Trafford of Swithamley, and died Oct. 11, 1730.
                    - 3. John Lawton, M.P. for Newcastle under Line, [qy. son and heir, and whose wife, Jane, married 2dly, sir William Moreton of Moreton, recorder of London;] died June 18, 1740, [s. p. apparently.]
                    - 4. Geo. Lawton, died unmarried.
                    - 5. Charles Lawton, baptized June 4, 1695, died April 21, 1696.
                    - 6. James Lawton, baptized April 8, 1698, died April 22, 1699.
                    - 7. Montague Lawton, baptized July 26, 1705, died Aug. 14, 1705.
                    - Hester.
                    - Elizabeth.
                    - Anne, wife of John Lawton of Wybunbury, married Nov. 13, 1735.
                    - Charlotte.
                    - Theodosia.
                    - Margaret, baptized July 3, 1699.
                    - Mary, wife of Ralph Trafford.
                    - Maria-Margaret Minshull, baptized July 19, 1702, died July 10, 1706.
                    - Seven other children by this marriage.
                    - Robert Lawton of Lawton, esq. sole issue by the second marriage, [sheriff of Cheshire, 1754, app. Feb. 21,] baptized May 6, 1723, died March 19, 1777. — Sarah, daughter of John Offley of Crewe and Madeley, esq. (who assumed the name of Crewe), M.P. co. Cest. died Aug. 19, 1770.
                      - John Lawton of Lawton, esq. son and heir, baptized Sept. 13, 1746, died March 25, 1804. — Anne, daughter and coheiress of Charles Crewe, esq. [of Warmincham,] M.P. co. Cest. [married 1770,] died Nov. 29, 1810.
                      - William Lawton, baptized Feb. 2, 1749, died unmarried April 9, 1814.
                      - Philip Lawton, baptized Jan. 23, 1750, died unmarried.
                        - 1. William Lawton [of Lawton,] esq., eldest son and heir, [died unmarried, 1831.]
                        - 2. Charles Bourne Lawton [of Lawton,] esq. married 1st, Anne, daughter of Henry Featherstonehaugh of Tooting, co. Surrey, [who ob. s. p. 1814]; and 2ndly, Mariana Percy, daughter of William Belcombe, M.D. of York, [who ob. s. p. 1868; he died 1860, æt. 89.]
                        - John Lawton of Snape, [clerk, M.A. rector of Lawton, died in 1831.] — Elizabeth, dau. of John Carter of Liverpool, [ob. April 25, 1868, æt. 77.]
                        - Philip Lawton, lieut. in 83d reg. died on his passage to the West Indies.
                        - Sarah, died an infant, buried at Wybunbury.
                        - Robert Lawton, died an infant, buried at Wybunbury.
                          - William Lawton, born Oct. 11, 1815. [killed 1833, by the machinery of a bone-mill at Shrigley.]
                          - [John Lawton of Lawton, esq. eldest surviving son, and heir to his uncle, Charles, born in 1821, and died in 1864.] — [Emily Ann, daughter of Thomas Crosse Legh of Adlington, esq. married 2dly, Frank Renaud, esq. M.D.
                            - William John Percy Lawton of Lawton, esq. born 1849, married in 1872. d 1877 — Mary Maud, daughter of the hon. Edward Erskine, grandson of the lord Chancellor Erskine, 3d son of 5th earl of Buchan.
                              - John William Edward Lawton, born June 24, 1873.
                              - Ralph Lupus Lawton, born 1878.
                              - Gwyndolen Maud Lawton.]
                            - Robert Charles Montague Lawton, born 1853.
                            - Louisa Elizabeth Lawton.
                            - Emily Anne Lawton, ob. infans, 1848.
                            - Agnes Fanny Adine Lawton.
                            - Evelyn Frances Christabel Lawton.
                            - *Rosamond Minnie, married to Frederick Henry Whitby, lieut. 106th Light Infantry, May 3, 1879, at Chorley.*
                  - [Robert Lawton of Prestbury and Lawton, formerly a lieut. 16th regt. of Foot, ob. Jan. 24, 1868, unmarried.]
                  - Anne, born July 31, 1813, [married rev. John Coventry Campion of Westoning Manor, Beds, and has issue].
                  - Maria, born Aug. 14, 1814, [married rev. W. Benn, and 2dly, the rev. T. Whitworth, by the latter of whom she has issue.]
                  - [Eliza, married S. Bailey of Bedfordshire, and has issue.]

CHURCH.

Ded. to All Saints.

Omitted in the Tax. Eccl. Val. Eccl. £47 7s. 6d.

The descent of the advowson of this church has been already given in the account of the manor. [The foundation seems to be of about the close of the eleventh century, when a chapel was probably originally erected here by Hugh de Mara, then lord of Lawton. The early ancestors of the Lawtons afterwards appear to have held an interest in the church, as it was soon afterwards called, when Ranulf, son of William, and William, son of Adam de Lawton, quitclaimed the advowson to abbot Simon, or Roger, and the convent of St. Werburgh.

[a] "William Lawton, esq. one of the Assistant Clerks of the Treasury," died Dec. 17, 1733. *Gents'. Mag.*—H.

On the petition of Abbot Robert, a burial ground had been consecrated, subject to the yearly payment of 12d. to the mother church of Astbury. The payment in 1700 (according to Gastrell) was 18d.] The church itself has been rebuilt in a plain manner with brick, with the exception of the tower, which is of stone, and embattled, and an antient semicircular doorway on the south side, enriched with mouldings in a style of early Norman architecture. [The tower was erected by John Bybber, priest, whose remains were interred beneath it, under a recessed altar tomb, surmounted by a low crowned arch. Above the arch are the initial letters of the founder's name, and sculptured figures of a chalice and breviary; the two latter being also at the head of a long short-headed cross, carved in relief on the tombstone. There were four bells, and two chalices here (one chalice being then in "gage" for 20s.) in 1548. There is now a peal of five bells, all made in 1713. The eighteenth century pews (or boxes) were all demolished in 1874, and replaced by benches. During these alterations a thirteenth century tile was discovered, forming a fourth part of a geometrical design, part of the date being MCCL.] The site of the building is at a short distance from Lawton-hall, on a circular mount, which has every appearance of being artificial. In the chancel are memorials of J. Cartwright of Lee-hall in this parish, [now the property of J. M. Toler, esq.] and of Charles Shaw, rector of Lawton. [Since this date the only other memorial erected is a small brass, bearing the arms of Lawton, impaling Legh of Adlington, and inscribed

"To perpetuate the memory of John Lawton of Lawton Hall who died June 9, 1864, this brass was erected by Emily Anne his widow."

RECTORS OF LAWTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
Circ. 1180	Edwardus, clericus,	Roberti Abbatis Cestrie; temp. Ricard. covent' Episcopus.	
Circ. 1220	Willielmus de Mascy, clerk,	Hug' Abbatis Cestrie; temp. W. covent' Episcopus.	
Circ. 1250	Willielmus de Lauton, presbiter.	Willielmus, lord of Lauton mediety?	
1306, xvj die Januar'.	Magr' Wilt de Meles.	Abbas & Con. Sĉæ Werburgæ.	
1336, xvij kln Novēbr'.	Wilts de Tamworth, p'sbr'.	Abbas & Con. Sĉæ Werburgæ.	p mortem Magri Wilti de Meles, ult rector'.
1348, ij non Septembr'	Johes Juge.	Abbas & Con. Sĉe Werburge.	p resig. ult' rector' ex causa p mutacionis vicar' ecct prebend de Allerwas.
1349, ij Id Septembr'	Ric' de Chilwel, clicus.	Abbas & Con. Sĉe Werburge.	p m. dni Johnis ult' r'tor' iij Id Augusti.
1360, xj kalend Maij	Dns Thomas de Chalmondesley,	Abbis & Convent[a] de Cestr',	p resign. dni Rici de Chillewell, ex cā p mut' vicar' ecct de Astanesfeld.
1369, ij Id Novembr'.	Thomas de Craven, pbr,	Abbis & Con. Sĉe Werburge,	p dimissionem dni Thome de Cholmelegh ult' rector'.[a]
1377	Mags' Johes Dutton		
1377, sexto die Augusti.	Johes Hallum, pbr.	Abb & Cōvent[a] Mon Sĉe Werbge Cestr'.	Vacavit & vacare incepit die M'cur' in Sept' Pasch ult' de ins' eo qd Mags' Johes Dutton ipam ecclam ult' unū annū non ordinat[a] inf[a] sacros occupavit.
1402, vicesimo scdo die Decembr'.	Dns Johes Bakford, cap[nus]	Abbat' & Conv. Mon Sĉe Werburge Cestr'.	p resig. dni Johis Hallum ult' rectoris ex cā pmu[is] de ipā cū Cantar' de Wolsley ad Altare bte Marie in ecclia p'bendali de Colewych.
1403, vicesimo quinto die Novembr'.	Dns Johannes Horseley, capellanus.	Abbt' & Con Mon Sĉe Werburge.	p resig' Magr' Johannis Bacford ult' rectoris ex cā pmu[is] facte de eadm cū canonicatū et p'bend. quos idm Johes Horseley nup obtit in ecclia Colleg' Sci Cedde Salop.
1407, vicesimo sexto die Februar',	Dns Elias de Wovr', capellanus.	Abbat' & Con Mon Sĉe Werburge.	(p. m.) Dni Johis Horseley, ult' rectoris.

[a] The following curious entry occurs in the margin of an erased Institution, immediately below Cravens. The erasure is of a coeval entry, but has a very fresh appearance. In a hand of some years later date, is a—"Md qd ista abrasura ex opposito p'sent' cicfacois ut bene liquet sit in ablacione actor' Institucionis pocli ecclie de Byriton vacant' A° dni supdco et malesicut' qui sic abras q'a fraudulent' & sbdole ipe fec'. Thm. bache. Registri[a] p. titl. p'dcū."—H.

Thomas de Cholmondeley (called Chalmondesley, and Cholmelegh, in the Registers), most probably a scion of the family of Cholmondeley; and

John Dutton, an unidentified member of the family of Dutton of Dutton, are not mentioned in Mr. Ormerod's Calendar of Rectors.

John Bacford, chaplain of the Wolseley chantry in the great prebendal church of Colwich, was the next year following his admission to Lawton, instituted vicar of Audlem, and on the same day resigned Lawton in exchange for the canonry of the collegiate church of Shrewsbury; and in 1404, also held the living of Blythefelde, Staffordshire. He was most probably a descendant of the early family of Backford of Backford, noticed in the account of that parish.

William Lauton, and his immediate successor of the same name, were most likely of the present family of the lords of Lawton; but in the face of evidence of the existence of collateral descendants of the original male line of Lawton down to a late period, their identity is rendered more doubtful.

John Latham was ancestor of the present line of Latham of Bradwall.

Charles Crewe was of the later family of that name, kinsmen by marriage, of the Lawtons.

Lancaster Wettenhall was brother, of the half-blood, of Thomas Wettenhall male ancestor of the present family of Mainwaring of Peover, and descended from the Wettenhalls of Nantwich, whose pedigree will be found under the account of Hankelow. He was buried Dec. 11, 1824.

John Lawton, of Snape, was ancestor of the present lord of the manor, and owner of the church advowson.

Frederick Forde was of the family of Ford, or Forde, of Abbeyfield, Sandbach. This rector was a graduate of Trinity Coll. Camb. 1826, and took his M.A. degree in 1831. His services for fifty years may perhaps be reckoned to rank among the most varied of those of the clergy of the English Church. After holding several curacies in Cheshire, Hampshire, and Staffordshire, he was preferred to this rectory, which he resigned eight years afterwards, on conscientious grounds, and was presented on his retirement with a present of plate by the parishioners. In the autumn of 1839, he accepted a curacy in Gloucestershire; and subsequently took duty in some of the poorest localities in London. He held the vicarage of St. Peter's, Malvern Wells, in 1842; in 1845, became secretary of "The Irish Society of London." In 1846, he was rector of St. Peter's Chester, and lecturer of St. Mary's; and, in 1856, became English chaplain at Heidelberg; in 1859, chaplain at Cannes; afterwards did duty as British chaplain in Interlaken. and also in Algiers; was again rector of St. Peter's in 1861; again resigned, and finally accepted the chaplaincy of St. John's without the Northgate, which he still holds. This very brief record might be supplemented by a long detailed account relating to his other appointments and duties, and various works of charity, if within the scope of this work.]

The following burials of rectors appear in the registers. William Lawton, Jan. 27, 1640. Ralph Sillitoe, Aug. 30, 1662. Joseph Hall, Aug. 10, 1679. John Latham, Jan. 5, 1705. Charles Shaw, June 24, 1732. John Ley, Feb. 23, 1757. Charles Shaw, Jan. 6, 1777.

The registers commence in 1559, [and contain an entry (also noticed by Burghall and Newcome) of the death of eleven young men killed in the church by lightning, during the sermon on Sunday, 21st June, 1652.

The rectory house and glebe, near the church, were many years ago exchanged by the Rev. John Lawton with Charles B. Lawton, esq. for Snape House, and lands adjoining. This old residence was thus converted into the parsonage, after having been for many generations the dwelling of the ancient Lawtons of Snape. The living is now worth about £360 p. a. house and grounds inclusive. Schools were erected at Lawton Gate in 1843, in which there is accommodation for one hundred children.]

*** The following occur in the Recognizance and other Palatine Rolls, as lessees of Lawton Lidgate, referred to at page 15—The "Floodgates" situate here, is a farm, on the boundary of which is a small brook dividing this county from Staffordshire.

30 & 31 Edw. I. Adam de Lauton was "farmer of the passage of Lauton." He also held the office 33 & 34 Edw. I. Chamberlain's accounts.

5 Edw. II. William de Bechinton, and William Bulkilegh enter into a recog. in £4 for farm of the passage for one year.

13 Edw. II. Adam de Lauton, William de Alsach', and Thomas de Crosselegh, to the earl in 5 marks, for the passage of Lauton.

20 Edw. II. Thomas de Coton & Gralam de Brydenhale, in 20s. for the passage of Lauton and Huggebrigge; also 4 & 5 Edw. III. in 40s. for the farm of the passage of Lauton and Nantwich.

6 Edw. III. Thomas de Coton, Richard de Lauton, and William de Arclyde, farm the passage.

9 Edw. III. Henry de Bramburgh, of Chester, Bartholomew de Norworthin, Thomas de Ideshale, and William de Rushton, enter into a recog. for the farm of the passage of Lauton and Wich Malbank.

21 Edw. III. John de Rode lessee of the passage of the town of Lauton for 3 years, at 46s. 8d. yearly.

24 Edw. III. Robert le Heyward of Lauton, lessee of the bailiwick of the passage of Lauton and Wich Malbank, for 3 years at 25s. yearly.

30–31 Edw. III. William de Lauton, mareschall, and Robert le Heyward of Lauton, lessees of the passage of Lauton and Wich Malbank, from Arthull to Huggebrugge, for 4 years at 36s. 8d. yearly. In 31 Edw. III. Heyward seems to have been appointed sole "keeper of the passage of Lauton & Wich Malbank, during good behaviour," & died in Sep. 35 Edw. III.

39 Edw. III. William le Marshal of Lauton, lessee of same for 3 years, at 36s. 8d. p. a.

41 Edw. III. William de Lauton, David de Wevere, and William de Fouleshurst, lessees for 12 years at 40s. p. a.

3–4 Ric. II. William de Lauton, lessee of the passage of Lauton for 12 years, at 40s. p. a.

13 Ric. II. Thomas de Horton grantee of the king, of the passage of Lautonlydeyate, of the annual Val. of 40s.

7 Hen. IV. Richard Castell (esq.) grantee of the passage of Lauton-Lydezate, for life.

8 Hen. V. Roger Mason grantee for life of an annuity of 40s. to be received of the issues of Lauton-Lydeyate, as Roger Draycote, deceased, received the same. Confirmed 7 Hen. VI.

10 Hen. VI. John Alsacher commissioned to receive the toll at Lauton-Lydyate and Hokebrugge, during pleasure.

14 Hen. VI. Roger Praers lessee of the passage of Lauton-Lydeyate for 4 years, at 43s. 4d. p. a.

15 Hen. VI. Robert Sely, yeoman of the king's chamber, lessee of the custody of the passage of Lauton-Lydiate, at 40s. p. a. during pleasure. In 30 Hen. VI. this lessee, then called "valectar' saucer' nr̃e," had a re-grant for life of the wardenship of Lautonlidiate, the former grant having been "resumed into the king's hands by virtue of an Act of Parliament 28 Hen. VI."

33 Hen. VI. David Thomasson grantee, during pleasure, of the custody of the passage of Laughtonlidiate, vacant by the death of Sely, the said David to receive 40s. p. a. of the issues & profits. He had a grant for life, in the following year.

5 Edw. IV. Thomas Gillowe lessee of the passage of Lautonlideate for 4 years at 13s. 4d. p. a.

12 Edw. IV. Thomas Crwe, of Wich Malbank lessee of the passage of Lautonlydeate for 5 years, at 13s. 4d. p. a.

21 Hen. VII. Roger Mainwaring lessee of certain escheated lands together with, inter alia, the passage of Lautonlideate for 31 years at £4. 8s. 4d. p. a.—H.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1409, penultimo die Septembr',	Dñi Willms Drap,	Abbtem & Conventū Moñ Sce Wereburg.	p resig. Elie Wov' &c. ex cā pmuts &c. cū Magist' sū custos Hospital Sci Johis Baptē Stafford.
1411, die undecima Septembr',	Dñi Thomas Cullurdouse,	Abb. & Con. Moñ Sce Werburge.	p resig. Will Drap ex cā &c. cū ecclie poch de Dysworth, Lincoln.
1435, quinto die Aprilis.	Willms Hyldych, clicus,	Prioris & Contus Monast'ij Sce Werburge.	p m. dō Thome ult'i rectoris.
1439, vicemo t'cio die Aprilis.	Dñs Willms Lolle,[a] p'sbr',	Abbatis & Contus Moñ Sce Wereburge,	p m. dñi Willi Hyldych ultimi rectoris.
1455, xvj die Sept'.	Dñs Johes Marleston, capella's,	Ven'ablis viri Johis Downe de Utkynton, armigi hac vice p donacōem religiosor' viror' Prioris & Conventus Moñ Sce Werburge.	p m. dñi Thome Lelly ultī r'toris.
1469, ultimo die Aprilis.	Dñs Henricij Marleston, capellā,	Abbtis et Conventus Moñ Sce Werburge.	per mortem dñi Johis Marleston ultimi rcors.
1478, xiiijo die Octobris.	Dñs Johnes Lanner, capellanus.	Abbatis et Conventus Moñ Sce Werburge,	p resignacōem Magri Henrici Marleston ultimi rcoris.
1481, xxiiijto die Marcij,	Dño Ranulpho Vaudrey, p'sbrō,	Epis Cov. & Lich p laps',	p m. dñi Johis llaner, ultimi rcoris.
1499, xxiij die Septembr'.	Dñs Johes Bowker, capellanus.	Abbat's Moñ Sce Wereburg et ejusd loci Cōventz.	p resignacōnem Ranulphi Vawdrey, ultimi rectoris.
1530, in, et ante?	Dñi Richardi Grey.		
1530, xvijmo die Junij,	Dñm Johis Bybe, capus.	Abbats et Cōventus Moñ Sce Werburge.	p resignac' dñi Richardi Grey ult' rcor'.
1555, xxijo die Junij.	Richus Byrches, clericus,	Johis Lawton de Church Lawton armi 20 June.	p mortem dñi Johis Bybbe.]
1559, ante.	William Lawton.		
1583, 10 Jan.	William Lawton.	John Lawton, esq.	D. of last incumb.
[1640, in, et ante?	Ralph Sillitoe.		
1662, in, et ante?	William Upsham.][b]		
1674, 15 June.	Joseph Hall.	William Lawton.	Cess. of Will. [Upsham.]
1679, 25 Aug.	George Grey, A.M.	William Lawton.	D. of Joseph Hall.
1682, 6 Oct.	John Latham.	William Lawton.	Cess. of [George] Grey.
1705, 20 Oct.	Charles Shaw.	John Lawton.	D. of John Latham.
1733, 23 April.	John Rowlands,[c] A.M.	John Lawton, esq.	D. of Charles Shaw.
1743, 17 Nov.	Nathaniel Hudd, LL.B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of John Rowlands.
1744, 21 March.	John Ley, A.B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	Res. of Nath. Hudd, LL.B.
1757, 4 May.	Charles Shaw, A.B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of John Ley.
1777, 4 March.	Charles Crewe, A.B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of Charles Shaw.
1782, 27 Dec.	Lancaster Wetenhall.	John Lawton, esq.	Cess. of Charles Crewe.
[1825, 11 Jan.	John Lawton, A.M.	William Lawton and Charles Bourne Lawton, both of Lawton Hall, esquires, James Caldwell of Linley Wood, co. Staff. esq. and Henry Jones of Leek and Wheelock, gent.	D. of L. Wettenhall.
V1831, 7 Sep.	Frederick Ford, M.A.	Charles B. Lawton, esq.	D. of John Lawton.
1839.	Vernon Tipping, B.A.	Charles B. Lawton, esq.	Res. of F. Ford.
1864, 30 Jan.	Samuel Nunn, M.A.	John Lawton, esq.	Res. of V. Tipping.]

To this list may be added, [as above,] on the authority of the chartulary of St. Werburgh, *Willielmus*, presbyter, called also Will's fil. Will'i, capellanus, who occurs in a composition with Simon abbot of St. Werburgh relative to the tithes of Lawton. [He also occurs as Will fil Willmi de Lauton. The name of *Edwardus*, clericus, is also added on the same authority, and who occurs in the chartulary quitclaim by Ranulph and William de Lauton, of the advowson of the church.

Willielmus, clericus, of Rosthorne, also occurs in the same entry of the quitclaim as being presented (temp. William, Bishop of Cov. and Lich.) by H(ugh) abbot of Chester, who died 1226. He appears to be identical with William de Mascy, rector of Rosthorne.

[a] 1438, 23 April, *Thomas Colley*, according to Ormerod; but his name appears to be Lilley—spelled Lollè, and Lelly, in the Lichfield Registers.—H.

[b] From Mr. Piccope's notes. Mr. Ormerod gives "William *Uxsham*?"—H.

[c] Also called Rowland; he was chaplain to lord Mountjoy, and in Nov. 1738, had a Dispensation, under the great seal, to enable him to hold with Lawton, the rectory of Checkley, co. Staff. *Historical Register*.—H.

A HISTORY
OF
ALL SAINTS', CHURCH LAWTON

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

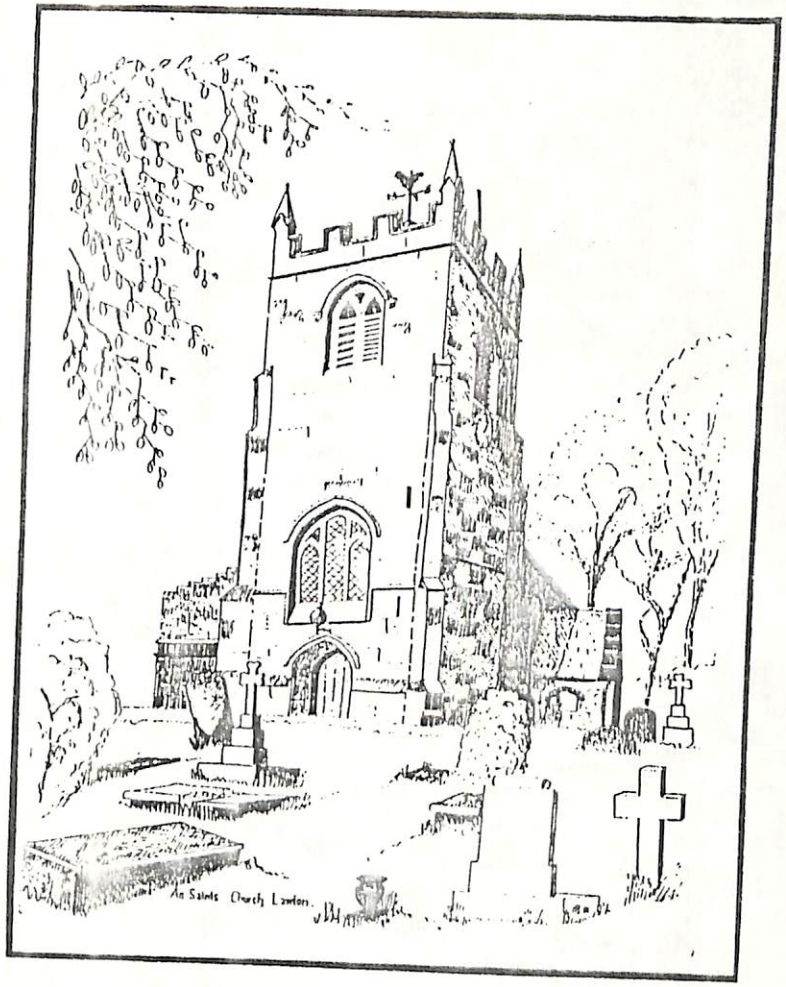
By

Revd. Ron Sutton

(Rector)

PENTECOST 1988 Price

Cheshire, England



PRAISE THE LORD OUR GOD,
AND
WORSHIP AT HIS SACRED HILL.
THE LORD OUR GOD IS HOLY.

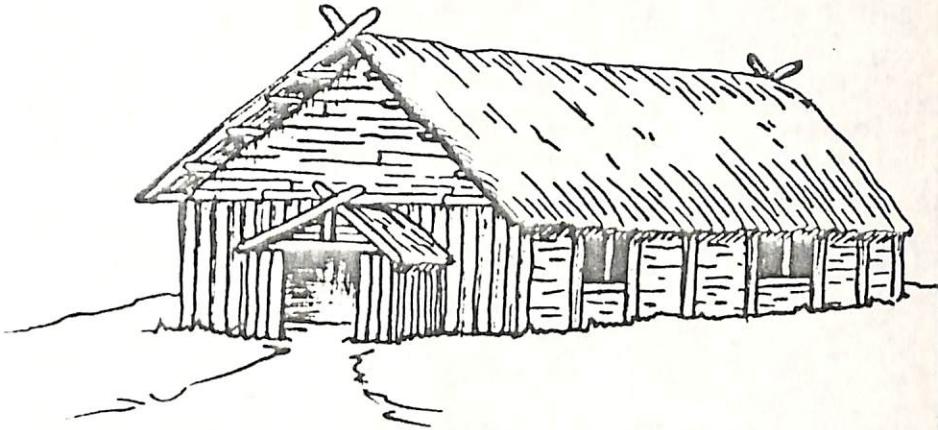
(PSALM 99:9)

A HISTORY OF ALL SAINTS', CHURCH LAWTON

The name Lawton itself is an indication of the parish's ancient origin. The word has a Saxon meaning, namely 'Farm by a mound', and it is assumed that the mound is the hillock upon which the present parish church stands, but whether or not the mound was a barrow (an archaeological burial tumulus) is not known. A dig on the field, some three-quarters of a mile away, between Crewe-road and Knutsford-road has in recent years unearthed 'urns' of a pre-historic period.

Lawton is however first identified for historical purposes in the eighth century because of an association with St. Werburgh. This devout lady was a daughter of the Saxon King Walpergus (or Wulfhere) whose saintly life led her to be reputed as a royal abbess of several religious houses. On her death in Lincolnshire about the year 700 her body was taken to Chester to avoid the marauding Danes and it is believed that the cortage rested overnight on the site of Lawton church. The first monastery in Chester was founded in her name and to her memory and later became successively the Abbey and the Cathedral church of Chester.

William the Conqueror's Domesday Survey refers to the area as 'Lautune' and that it belonged to Hugo de Mara, who was one of the king's fellow Normans. The whole of the County of Cheshire had been given over to the king's brother-in-law Hugh Lupus (Hugh the Wolf), a character notorious for his riotous living who, on his deathbed, vowed to establish a church at Lawton "if the Lord would only spare him".



11th. Century

12th Century - 1550

This is a version of how the first church came to be built. The church lands were passed over to the Abbot of St. Werburgh's at Chester, a place of worship was erected and the Abbot appointed one Edward as the first Rector of Lawton in the year 1180. The architectural remain of this earliest church is the Norman Arch doorway over the South door.

Between 1180 and the fifteenth century the village of Lawton was in two halves, one half being the church lands, or the 'Glebe', on which is now built the Lawton Gate estate, and the remainder which was owned by the Squire of Lawton. The legend of the Lawton family dates back to around the year 1200 when King John was separated from his companions while hunting in the area. The story is that his horse reared and threw him when it was confronted by a great wolf, whereupon a nearby keeper came to the rescue and killed the wolf. The man gave his name as Keeper Adam de Lauton and, for saving his life, the King granted him all the land he could walk over in a week, taking the bleeding wolf as his starting point, "Moreover, the head of the wolf shall be thy crest", the King told him, "Thy deed will go down in history".

The Lawton family can thus trace their family-tree to the time of this exploit and their family crest is to be found several times in and around the present church. The Lawton Coat of Arms, which is linked with the Davenport family, consists of the three crosses of calvary and the Tudor Rose underneath a wolf licking its left shoulder - and the motto 'Spes Infracta' (Hope

Unbroken).

The church building itself undoubtedly underwent a number of changes over its eight centuries and may well have been a black and white type with a thatched roof but there are only artists' impressions of how it may have looked. There is mention in the Churchwardens' accounts of 1691 and 1707 of the purchase of '15 bags of moss for ye church roof' which suggests that the building was of wattle and daub. During improvement work which was carried out in 1873-74 the discovery was made of six Thirteenth Century Tiles which have been preserved in a carved frame at the back of the church made from an oak tree grown on the Lawton Estate, and which was donated to the church in 1971 by the former Lawton Hall School.

The Reformation which started during the reign of King Henry VIII included the dissolution of the monasteries and the disposal of their properties. It was at this time that the then Squire, William Lawton, acquired the Manor and the patronage of the Church from the Crown for the purchase price of £232: 14s: 2d. (c.1542).

It was during this part of the sixteenth century that the church at Lawton experienced other changes both in its outward appearance and within its walls. From 1530 to 1559 the Rector was one John Byber during whose ministry the effects of the English Reformation came to the parish. In 1538 the first Bible in the English language was placed in every parish church, and in 1549 the Latin Mass was replaced by the first

English Prayer Book, to be followed three years later by a more reforming book. By 1554 however the Roman Mass was restored under Queen Mary and continued until the Accession of Elizabeth in 1558. Rector Byber lived through all these changes and it was also during his incumbency, in 1536, that the Parish Registers were started and which still exist today in their original Latin language.

John Byber has left the parish a permanent memorial of his life and times as he was the one who was responsible for the building of the Church Tower, and his mortal remains are interred at the foot of the belfry stairway in a recessed altar tomb which bears his initials and a sculptured chalice and breviary, signs of his priesthood. The south facing outside wall of the tower also has "J B" carved between a chalice. The west facing wall of the tower also has the remains of carving, the type of which were despoiled by Puritan enthusiasts.

It appears that the Lawton family were Royalist sympathisers at the time of the Civil War, a period when the County of Cheshire was bitterly divided with the King's standard being raised at Chester while the town of Nantwich was a Parliamentary stronghold. In about the year 1656, during the Commonwealth rule, Charles II was concealed for a time at Lawton Hall and stood as a Sponsor at the baptism of one of the Squire's children (probable John Lawton on 7th May 1656). As a baptismal gift to the child the royal godparent gave a drinking cup, saying he "had naught else to offer". It is interesting to note that during the

period of the Puritan Commonwealth the sacrament of Baptism was suppossed to be forbidden by Parliament.

Tragedy struck the church on a Sunday in early June 1652 when the area suffered a terrible thunderstorm. An entry in the church register reads, "A great black cloud poured down hail over an area of 60 miles by 2 miles. It killed small animals by hundreds and beat down men and horses". This occurred at the time of a church service just as Rector Ralph Sillito was commencing his sermon based on the text Philippians 3.8. There must have been a full congregation as people were standing in the belfry. It is reported that there was a terrifying clap of thunder, a blinding flash which caused some to fall to the floor, a dog yelped and a boy cried out for his brother. Surprisingly the service continued before it was realised that eleven men who had been in the Bell-house had been killed by lightening. A great throng attended the service when the victims were buried in the churchyard.

In those days the inhabitants of Lawton were mainly employed in agricultural pursuits and there is also mention of some salt mining at one time in the parish. The woodlands which then covered this part of South Cheshire contributed to charcoal making and this also encouraged the opening of an Iron-making furnace. A John Turner of Stafford obtained a 21-year lease in the year 1658 for the conversion of a corn-mill into a furnace - this must have been a substantial enterprise as he invested £3000 in the making of the Furnace and Forge. Subsequent records show that the Iron-making

1550 - 1798

1803 -

business was later leased to the Foley family who were great Iron-masters in the seventeenth century. During the period 1696 to 1704 the annual output of pig-iron rose from 700 tons to 900 tons, and up to 30 men would have been employed in the heyday of this former Lawton industry.

The next development which had a great effect upon Lawton was the construction of the Trent and Mersey Canal which was completed in 1777. This was one of the many such engineered by the famous James Brindley and this 93-mile waterway formed part of the busy network of horse-drawn water transport. The feature of the length through Church Lawton is the number of locks known as the Red Bull Flight and the Lawton Flight. The church registers provide evidence of the many who were employed as Overseers, Lock-keepers and Boatmen, and the carrying of coal, salt and materials used in the nearby Pottery industry kept the canal very busy until the coming of the steam-railway. Now after years of being virtually un-used the canal is again busy as a popular section on the waterways holiday route.

The church registers from this time on show that many Lawton men were employed as colliers in the many coal-mines in the area, and at one time there was a coal-pit at the Red Bull end of the parish.

The south face of the church tower contains an ancient clock whose original mechanism dates back to the seventeenth centuary and the churchwardens' old accounts contain a reference to the purchase of "oyle for ye clock" in 1691.

Lawton church is justly proud of its peal of eight bells which are still in full use. Five were installed in 1713, having been cast by R.D.Saunders of Bromsgrove, and are inscribed with the names of their respective donors, namely, 'the ironmasters of Lawton Furnace', 'William Lawton Esq.', 'Thomas Rowlry and James Beech, churchwardens' and 'John Lawton Esq, Patron.Charles Shaw, Rector'. The present peal was completed in 1901 by which time three further bells made by Taylor's of Loughborough had been added. These bear the names of, 'A.Rigby of The Grove', 'the parishioners and friends of Church Lawton' and was known as the 'Queen Victoria Memorial Bell' erected during the 52-year long incumbency of Rector Samuel Nunn (1864 to 1916).

In the year 1798 the Nave of the church was destroyed by fire, although the Tower survived. The opportunity was then taken to re-build a more substantial building and this was done by the use of stone from Smallwood, bricks from Burslem and timber from Liverpool Docks. The total cost of restoration came to about £800 which was finally paid off by 1813.

A more ambitious extension scheme was considered in 1873 which would have involved expenditure of up to £3000 but this was not proceeded with. However, a number of improvements were carried out in that year. The former box-pews were replaced by the present pews (the older type can still be seen in the gallery). Also at this time the present two-manual Organ was installed, being a gift from the wife of the then Squire. Prior to that time the gallery (added in

1717) accomodated an 'Orchestra' to accompany the singing; from 1807 there had been a Bass-Viol, a Clarinet, a Bass-Fiddle, a Violin and a Violin-Cello. In those days repairs to instruments, renewal of strings and 'fiddle-sticks' were a cost that had to be met from the Churchwardens' funds.

The church has retained its close link with the Lawton family who still hold the patronage to the living. The present Lawton Hall which was the Lawton family home up to the early part of the present century dates from the eighteenth century having replaced a former hall. It is believed that an underground passage exists between the Hall and the church.

On a visit to the church there are a number of other interesting things to look for.

The Royal Coat of Arms which hangs from the gallery is dated 1802 and has therefore been in the church since the reconstruction which was completed in that year. The Arms are those of King George III and contain a rare feature, in the centre can be seen the Arms of Hanover which was included in the British Coat of Arms between the years 1801 and 1816. On the north and south walls are six fine examples of Hatchments of the Lawton family which were placed in the church during the nineteenth century and on the occassion of the death of a male member of the family.

The Adam and Eve Alms Dish, which is still

in use, has had a spectacular history and is one of the very few of such dishes that remain in existance. It was stolen in 1817 by thieves who thought it was made of gold, but upon discovering that it was of brass they flung it in to the nearby canal. There it lay for 80 years before it was retrieved when the canal was dredged and having been restored it still shows marks of its time in the waters.

An advertisement was published in the Staffordshire Advertiser of 15th June 1816 in which Samuel Pointon and John Hall, churchwardens of Church Lawton offered a reward of ten guineas (no mean sum for those days) for information concerning a thief who had recently broken into the church through a bricked-up doorway and stolen a Flagon, a Communion Cup and a Salver (all of silver). These, unlike the Adam and Eve Alms Dish, were never recovered but they were replaced by Mr. William Lawton with a fine Wine Flagon, two Chalices and a Communion Paten, dated 1817, which are still among the church's treasures.

The pews on either side of the altar both used to have their own private doorways, the one on the pulpit side being the Lawton family pew and the one on the south side was for the use of the Rector's family.

The Altar Table appears to have been the work of a local joiner made up of a mixture of wood, and of more artistic skill are a pair of seventeenth century Yorkshire type chairs. One of these was found in scattered pieces some years ago but was restored in 1983.

A brass memorial tablet over the Rector's stall and to the memory of William P.V. Nunn who died in 1873 contains the symbols of the four gospel writers, namely a human form for Matthew, a lion for Mark, an Ox for Luke and an eagle for John (see Ezekiel 1:10). Another memorial to I Cartwright of Lee Hall and dated 1718 has the sign of the skull and crossbones which at that time was not an uncommon embellishment on memorials.

There is an interesting Benefactions Board dated 1801 which was rescued from decay during the early 1980's and it records a number of very interesting endowments and gifts to the church from 1667 onwards. These include the weekly supply of thirteen penny loaves to the dozen to the poor of the parish each Sunday, and also that the interest from a bequest of £12 to be paid annually to the Rector on condition that he preached an Anniversary sermon and taught three of the poorest children until they could read the Bible through.

The Bellringers' Tower as well as having some memorials to past ringers also houses three boards on which are written the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments. These were introduced into churches at the time of the Reformation and would have originally been in the Nave of the church for all to see and learn. This room also has a reminder of the days when bellringers were sustained by a regular supply of ale. There is a fine jug which was presented to Church Lawton ringers by the ringers of Christ Church, Tunstall in 1883, together with five individually numbered drinking mugs.

The church also has a mid-eighteenth century stone Font which is now unfortunately in two parts awaiting proper restoration; for a number of years after it came out of liturgical use it had served as a bird-bath in the Rectory garden.

The extensive churchyard has been a burial ground for hundreds of years and continues in use at the present time. In former years people were buried in unmarked graves and it was not until about the year 1700 that memorial stones were introduced and the very first were nothing more than markers simply bearing initials and year of death. Large flat stones became popular in the eighteenth century and the churchyard contains some interesting examples with informative details of the deceased. The 1800's brought more elaborate memorials into fashion and there is also one which is made of cast-iron. A wander round the older part of the churchyard gives an insight into the lives and occupations of the past inhabitants of Church Lawton.

The church is dedicated in the name of 'All Saints' and now ministers to a population of more than three thousand parishioners, being part of the Deanery of Congleton and within the Diocese of Chester. A pleasing feature of the building is the amount of natural light provided by the attractive clear windows. The small Chancel and Sanctuary area are combined and although lacking in space the church is ideal for intimate and congenial worship and the services which are provided are an assortment

of both traditional and modern forms of liturgy and music as means of fulfilling the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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- 'History of County Palatine and City of Chester', by G.Omerod (1882 Helsby edition)

- 'Lawton Notes', by John Fryer

- 'Staffordshire Sentinel', (various cuttings)

Cover design and contemporary illustrations by Paul Cruxton.

SYLVANIA CITY CEMETERY SYLVANIA GA.

Themistocles
ROBERT T. LAWTON ON HIS TOMBSTONE: SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
See: DFC p. 350

ROBERT T. LAWTON
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
AUGUST 25, 1881 IN THE 74TH
YEAR OF HIS AGE
HE WAS LOVED AND ESTEEMED
BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM
AN HONEST MAN IS THE
NOBLEST WORK OF GOD

Singleton
HARRIET CHARLOTTE / LAWTON ON HER TOMBSTONE: HARRIET CHARLOTTE LAWTON
(a Robert-Landgrave Smith's descendant)
see: Our Family Circle p. 241.

WIFE OF ROBERT T. LAWTON
BORN DEC 10 1807
DIED AUG 12 1863
ALL WHO KNEW HER CAN BEAR
TESTEMONY THAT SHE WAS
TRUE TO HER PROFESSIONS AS
CHRISTIAN WIFE AND MOTHER

WALTER L. LIVINGSTON HER FIRST HUSBAND
ROSA LAWTON ON HER TOMBSTONE: (ONE SIDE) OUR MOTHER

BRAVE GENEROUS COURAGEOUS
HER CHILDREN RISE UP AND CALL
HER BLESSED
MARRIED FIRST NOV 1852 TO
WALTER L. LIVINGSTON WHO
DIED OCT 1854

DR GEORGE BASKERVILLE DOUGLAS HER SECOND HUSBAND
ROSA LAWTON ON HER TOMBSTONE: (OTHER SIDE) SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF

ROSA LAWTON DOUGLAS
DAUGHTER OF ROBERT AND
HARRIET SINGLETON LAWTON
MARRIED MARCH 31 1857 TO
DR. GEORGE BASKERVILLE DOUGLAS

dates for Rosa Lawton
BORN FEB 24 1834
DIED FEB 10 1916

OVER

ROSA LAWTON DOUGLAS SECOND HUSBAND DR. GEORGE BASKERVILLE DOUGLAS

ON HIS TOMBSTONE: GEORGE BASKERVILLE DOUGLAS M.D.
SURGEON C.S.A.
BORN IN VA. AUG 12, 1816
DIED IN GA. SEPT 7, 1899
COURTLY SCHOLARLY CHRISTIAN

ANOTHER GRAVE IN SAME GRAVE PLOT

ON TOMBSTONE: Wm J. STURDIVANT
BORN JAN 14 1854
DIED OCT 7 1884

1st husband of Annie Baskerville Douglas
see: DFC p. 355

ALEXANDER FAMILY GRAVE-YARD, FAIRFIELD PLANTATION, WASHINGTON, GA.
(Memorandum taken by Alexander R. Lawton, February 25, 1912.)

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SARAH GILBERT, wife of Felix H. Gilbert, died May 1, 1808, aged 25. "She taught us how to live, and Oh! (too high the price of knowledge) "taught us how to die".

FELIX HAYWOOD GILBERT. Died Nov. 27, 1813, aged 55 years.

WILLIAM GRANT GILBERT, died May 23, 1831, aged 66.

SARAH PORTER GILBERT, daughter of Felix and Sarah Gilbert, died July 3, 1807, aged 2 months.

SARAH HILLHOUSE ALEXANDER, daughter of Felix and Sarah Gilbert and wife of Adam Leopold Alexander, died February 28, 1855, aged 49 (Memo: She was first named Maria; and, after the death of her infant sister Sarah Porter, her name was changed to Sarah.

HENRY LEOPOLD ALEXANDER, son of Adam L. and Sarah H. Alexander, died September 11, 1845, aged five weeks.

ADAM L. ALEXANDER (Jr.) son of Adam L. and Sarah H. Alexander, died May 9, 1837, aged 15 days.

ADAM L. ALEXANDER, born Jan. 29, 1803, died April 9, 1882, and
JANE MARION ALEXANDER, born June 20, 1821, died August 23, 1885. (She was his second wife, maiden name Dunwody, then Mrs. , then Mrs. Glenn, and married A. L. Alexander , 186 - . The monument is joint.)

"CYNTHEA PETERS, the faithful friend and servant of A. L. & S. H. Alexander and Nurse of all their children, fell asleep in Jesus 12 Jan. 1880, aged 74 years.
"Well done good and faithful servant" (Known to every one as "Old Mammy".)

MARY LOUISA, Wife of William Felix ALEXANDER and daughter of General Robert Toombs, died March 4, 1855, aged 21.

MARION LEE ALEXANDER, daughter of E. P. and B. M. Alexander, born April 17, 1865, died June 26, 1865.

CHARLES ATWOOD ALEXANDER, born November 4, 1838, died January 30, 1907. (His first wife, Ida Calhoun, sister of his second wife, is buried in Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah, Ga.)

ROSA CALHOUN ALEXANDER, his second wife, died February 23, 1912, and was buried this date, February 25, 1912. She was born 18 .

CHARLES ATWOOD ALEXANDER (Jr.), son of Charles A. and Rosa C. Alexander, born April 27, 1883, died August 23, 1883.

HATTIE V. ALEXANDER, daughter of Charles A. and Rosa C. died March 24, 1882, aged 15 years eight months.

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Alexander-Hillhouse-
-Gilbert

A 1

Gilbert.

Felix H. and William Gilbert came to Georgia from Rockingham Co Virginia. The brothers were engaged not only in planting, but in a business venture as well. They built Fairfield. ~~and~~ in Washington (said to be the first town named in honor of the father of his country) David and Sarah (Parter) Hillhouse of New England had made it their residence for many years. and Mr Felix married Miss Sarah Hillhouse as his bride and they were married . She died when her daughter was about three years old. and after that Mr. Gilbert traveled a great deal and was seldom at home.

Interesting letters to his wife before their marriage. From Bethlehem. where she had attended the Moravian School. Discription of trip to N.Y. Letters to his sisters too.
Discription in book of method of transporting cotton by waggons to the north. See The Alexander Letters.

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Schmidt.

1st Generation.

Egedius Heinrich Schmidt of Stuttgard. b. 6th May 1738 Grad. Leipzig. He became a shipping merchant owning vessels trading between European ports and the West India Islands. which made it necessary for him to ~~spend~~ make many voyages to that part of the world. He was married to Dorothea Christina Kisselbach. b. Stuttgard 7th June 1740 and at the time of their emigration to the New World. the family consisted of children. The loss of several ships determined Mr. Schmidt to renounce ~~his~~ a business subjected to such great risks and to settle permanently in the United States and ~~engage in the~~ become a cotton merchant. Coming first to Charleston. S. C. in 1785 he lived for some time as the guest of a wealthy bachelor whose family and that of the Schmidts had been intimate in the fatherland. After deliberating as to where he could best locate himself he selected Sunbury ~~Georgia~~. then a thriving port and rival of Savannah, but now one of the Dead Cities of Georgia.

Insert here extract from Jones', Dead Cities of Georgia.

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About 1784 Mr Schmidt decided to send for his family, consisting of two sons and three daughters,

1 Heinrich. d. sp. in Germany.
2 Leopold d. s. p. in Philadelphia.
3 Louisa Frederika. m. Adam Alexander M.D.
4 Charlotte Sybilla. m. Mr Jno Green d. sp. in Savannah
5 Dorothea Christina. spinster.

Heinrich having already entered the army remained in Germany where he died unmarried, but Mrs Schmidt and her other children embarked at Amsterdam for America. The consort of their vessel sailed first, but before the next tide a violent storm with intense cold caused the harbor to freeze, imprisoning all the shipping for many weeks before the breaking up of the ice permitted them to depart. Meanwhile the first ship arriving in Charleston reported its sister as but one tide behind and due to arrive before long, but as the weeks passed and still no ship appeared the anxious husband and father was compelled to give up his loved ones as lost. Finally however, they sailed unharmed into the harbor of Savannah, and later went to their pleasant home in Salzburg, and here in true story-book style the bachelor friend followed the family and became a suitor for the hand of the fair Louisa Frederika.

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She however turned from his addresses, though she promised her father to marry no one else as long as he lived. Not many years after Mr Schmidt died 23rd Aug 1795 when she was about twenty three years of age, and 10th March 1802 at Sunbury, she married Dr Adam Alexander of Edinburgh. Of the other children of Egidius Heinrich Schmidt, Leopold the second son studied medicine in Philadelphia with the celebrated Dr Rush and at the time of the terrible Yellow fever epidemic, when all the other medical students fled, this one had the courage to remain and died a martyr to duty. ~~Of the other children~~ - Carlotta Sybilla never married. Dorothea Christiana married a Mr Van Gherin and died s.p. in Savannah 1851, aged over eighty years. The only descendants therefore of the interesting German family are the offspring of Louisa Frederika who married Dr Adam Alexander, of whom there were two. Adam Leopold, m. Sarah Gilbert.

Louisa, m. Henry Porter of Savannah and died s.p.

Adam Alexander was one of a number of educated Scotchmen who came to America about this time. He graduated at Edinburg, came to America and took service as a surgeon in the army of the revolting colonies. At the siege of Savannah he was taken prisoner, but liberated on parole to attend a British officer of high rank. After that he resided in Sunbury

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where he died 3rd March 1811. aged 53. After his death his widow, being solicitous that her ~~children~~ son and daughter should have the best education this now world could give, took her ~~two children~~ son and daughter to New Haven, Conn. that they might be placed under the best masters there; yet so well had Dr McWhirr trained Adam Leophold, that he was able to enter the Sophomore class Yale college at the age of fourteen and to graduate in the class of 1821 at the age of seventeen. Those who have had the privilege of knowing his sister Louisa Mrs Porter, remember well the high standard of her culture and dignified finish of her manners.

Under these circumstances the orphaned Sarah* Gilbert met her future husband, she also having been brought from Georgia to New Haven by her grand Mother Mrs David Hillhouse nee Sarah Porter of Hadley, and for the same reason, and by the time their educations were completed ~~they~~ these young people became engaged when she was but fourteen and he seventeen years of age.

Insert here Letters of A. L. A and S. G.

They were married at the home of her uncle William Gilbert (which later she inherited) 28th April 1820. Here they resided for six months after which they lived for some time with his

* 1st named Maria. name changed to Sarah after her mother's death.

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mother Mrs Louisa Fredirika (Schmidt) Alexander in Sunbury. Until becoming involved in financial difficulties Mr W.H. Gilbert summoned his niece to Washington and upon her arrival she was put into possession of Fairfield the home built by her father Filip H. Gilbert and here they lived for the remainder of their happy and prosperous lives rearing their remarkable family of ten children distinguished alike for ability and character.

Letters.

Picture of Fairfield.

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DAVID HILLHOUSE and SARAH PORTER, his wife. (parents of Sarah Gilbert), first settlers of the family in Washington, Georgia, lived and died in Wilkes County and were buried on a plantation. Their place of burial is now unknown.

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MARKER AT ENTRANCE

The Lawton-Seabrook Cemetery on the plantation where Captain William Lawton lived was bequeathed to his widow Mary STONE Grimball Lawton for life or remarriage and then to their son Joseph Lawton. She as Mary Fickling released her interest to Joseph Lawton, who with his wife Sarah ROBERT Lawton sold the plantation to John Hanahan 13 Dec. 1774,Charleston Deed Book"6V,p.450,"Saving and reserving nevertheless to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a CERTAIN BURYING Place or Grave Yard where the Lawtons and their near kindred have been accustomed to bury". ~~The~~ This with rights of ingress and egress is repeated at least six times. The deed also refers to previous owners of this tract that adjoined another 460 acre tract bought by William Lawton from James Cuthbert in Jan. 1750

MARKER AT ENTRANCE:

The Lawton-Seabrook Cemetery is on the plantation on which Captain William Lawton resided and bequeathed to his widow Mary Stone Grimball Lawton for life, then to their son Joseph Lawton. His widow, then Mary Fickling, released her interest to their son Joseph who, with his wife Sarah Robert Lawton, sold the plantation to John Hanahan 13 Dec. 1774. Deed Book 6V, p. 450 reads "Saving and reserving nevertheless to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a CERTAIN BURYING Place or Grave Yard where the Lawtons and their near kindred have been accustomed to bury". This with rights of ingress and egress is repeated at least six times. The deed refers to previous owners of this tract which adjoined another 460-acre tract bought by William Lawton from James Cuthbert in Jan. 1750.

INDIVIDUAL MARKERS IN LAWTON-SEABROOK CEMETERY:

1. Captain William Lawton, born c. 1707, died Edisto Island between his 9 Oct. 1757 will and the 15 Oct. 1757 will of his son Josiah. Both wills proved 9 Dec. 1757 in Charleston.
Captain, Edisto Island Co. of Foot, St. John's Colleton 24 May 1757.
Trustee with brother-in-law William Jenkins of trust for benefit of Presbyterian Congregation on Edisto in 10 April 1750 will of their brother-in-law James Clarke.
Appointed Overseer of Poor for Edisto by Vestry of Anglican Congregation ~~for Edisto~~ with two other "sober, discreet and substantial men".
Married (1) Mary Clark, daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Clark.
Children: Josiah, William Jr., Sarah (b. 1739, married John Seabrook, d. 21 Oct. 1798, both buried in this Cemetery), Jeremiah Lawton.
Married (2) Mary Winborn, daughter of Thomas Winborn. Children: Winborn Lawton (b. Edisto 1747, d. 22 Sept. 1809, buried James

Island) and Mary Lawton (b. c. 1748), who married a Russell

Married (3) Mary Stone, widow of Paul Grimball Jr., daughter of John Stone and Susannah Carriere Stone (later wife of Thomas Winborn), b. Edisto c. 1720, d. 1803 as widow of Samuel Fickling. Buried Robertville, St. Peter's Parish, Beaufort Dist. One son Joseph Lawton, b. Edisto 18 Oct. 1753, d. Mulberry Grove Plantation, Robertville 15 Mar. 1815. Buried next to his mother in Robertville.

2. MARY CLARKE, married William Lawton c. 1730, died ante 1743, mother of 4 children.

3. MARY WINBORN, married William Lawton c. 1745, mother of 2 children.

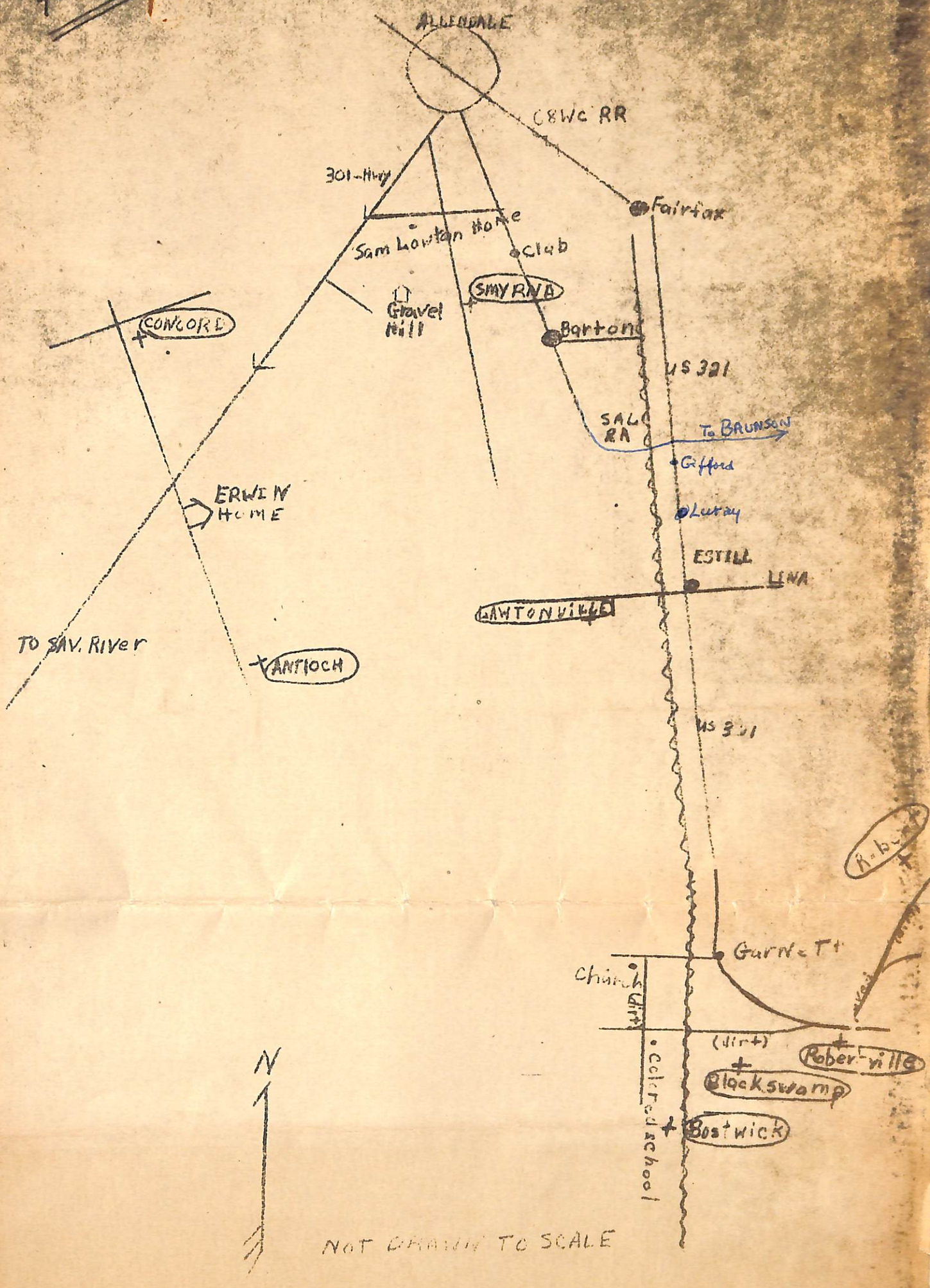
4. JOSIAH LAWTON, planter, eldest child of William Lawton, b. c. 1732, will of 15 Oct. 1757 proved 9 Dec. 1757 bequeathed his inherited half of 460-acre Cuthbert tract to his brother Jeremiah, his personal estate to his brothers and sisters.

5. WILLIAM LAWTON, JR., born c. 1735, died unmarried and intestate. Estate appraised 1 Jan. 1759.

6. JEREMIAH LAWTON, born c. 1741, died unmarried and intestate. Personal estate appraised 20 May 1762.

7. REV. WILLIAM TILLY, came to America 1721 from Salisbury, England. Called to ministry at Charleston, ordained after 1731 Edisto, d. on Edisto 14 Apr. 1744, aged 46, thought to be buried here. His Executors Paul, Isaac & Joshua Grimball and John Jenkins sold his 200 acres here 14 May 1744 to William Lawton.

7-6-56


ALLENDALE
C8WC RR
301-Hwy
Fairfax
Sam Lawton Home
Club
SMYRNA
Gravel Hill
CONCORD
Barton
US 321
SAL RR
To BRUNSON
Gifford
Luray
ERWIN HOME
ESTILL
LENA
LAWTONVILLE
TO SAV. RIVER
ANTIOCH
US 321
Garnett
Church
(dirt)
(dirt)
Robertville
Blackswamp
Colored school
Bostwick
N
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

CEMETERIES IN [illegible] COUNTY

1. ANTIOCH

Erwina
Sam

2. CONCORD

Samuel George Lawton (b. 1838)
Harriett Brookes Lawton (b. September 30, 1860)
Camille Lawton Cunningham (b. October 12, 1885)
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Peaples

3. SMYRNA

* Joseph J. Lawton (b. 1777 - d. 1859)
* Phoebe Mosse Lawton (m. Joseph J. Lawton 1798)
Joseph Alexander Lawton (b. Mississippi 1811)
Martha Stoney Lawton (b. February 24, 1807 - d. April 12, 1880)
A. son, Paul Stoney Lawton (b. August 31, 1841 - d. September 29, 1859)
Dr. Benjamin Lawton
Josephine Polhill Lawton

4. LAWTONVILLE

* B. T. D. Lawton (cenotaph) (d. April 18, 1846, buried at Albany, Georgia - Aged 68 years, 3 months, 26 days)
* Jane Lawton (Consort of B. T. D. Lawton - d. May 23, 1857 -Aged 74 years)
Mrs. Harriet S. Lawton (Wife of W. J. Lawton, Esq. - d. March 23, 1847 - Aged 27 years)
Winbon A. Lawton (b. 1812 - d. 1884)
* Lucinda W. Lawton (Wife of Rev. W. A. Lawton - b. 1803 - d. February 2, 1876)
* Reverend Winbon A. Lawton (b. January 23, 1793 - d. February 28, 1879)
John Lawton (b. September 25, 1830 - d. June 18, 1908)

Plot enclosed with iron fence:

Francis Asbury Lawton (b. June 6, 1841 - d. February 17, 1899)
Annie Bryan Lawton (b. June 24, 1847 - d. July 10, 1928)
Thomas Oregon Lawton (b. January 5, 1846 - d. December 21, 1917)
Mary Phoebe Lawton (b. April 23, 1850 - d. March 16, 1903)
Thomas Willingham (b. December 23, 1798 - d. July 7, 1878)
Phoebe Sarah Willingham (Daughter of B. T. D. Lawton - d. February 4, 1862 - Aged 53 years, 6 months, 4 days)
Sarah Calder Lawton (Wife of Dr. James Stoney Lawton - b. August 19, 1822 - d. November 26, 1856)
S. C. Bryan (d. March 17, 1849 - Aged 29 years, 7 days)
Mary Peeples Willingham (d. January 16, 1864)
E. G. Willingham (b. September 22, 1839 - d. May 5, 1922)
Mrs. L. J. Willingham (Second wife of Thomas Willingham)

Note: Others at Lawtonville include Ephriam Baynard, Lawtons, Peeples, and many others.

5. BOSTICK

* William Henry Lawton, Esq. (b. Blackswamp Feb. 23, 1775 - d. Blackswamp Nov. 14, 1827 - Aged 52 yrs., 8 mos, 28 days)
* Catherine Maner Lawton (b. May 1, 1777 - d. Nov. 30, 1842)
Mrs. Mary Mullett (106 years - Remainder of tomb illegible)
Frances Julia Porcher (Daughter of W. H. & Catherine Lawton - d. Oct. 21, 1842 - Aged 24 years)
Jane H. Lartigue (Daughter of W. H. & Catherine Lawton - b. 1816 - d. 1844)
Dr. Thomas E. Lawton (Son of W. H. & Catherine Lawton - d. May 11, 1845 - Aged 22 years, 6 months, 15 days)
Captain William Maner (d. August 24, 1819, Aged 64 years, 8 months)
Mrs. Asenath Maner (Consort of Captain William Maner - d. June 8, 1804, Aged 43 years)

Note: Other tombs include Mary Anna Lawton, consort of Joseph M. Lawton, Dr. Samuel Perry, Samuel Perry Maner, Bosticks, Maners, Martins, Marshalls, etc.

6. BLACKSWAMP

Joseph Maner Lawton (b. August 27, 1800 - d. Dec. 3, 1862 - Member of Methodist Episcopal Church)
Ann Bolling Green (Lawton) (b. March 5, 1823 - m. W. H. Lawton Nov. 8, 1843 - d. August 23, 1862)
John S. Maner (b. July 3, 1785 - d. June 18, 1852 - Member of House, Senate, and Major in War of 1812)
Catherine Maner (Wife of John S. Maner - d. May 27, 1862)

Note: Also other Lawtons, Maners, Morgandollars, Martins, Bosticks and Richardsons, etc.

7. ROBERTVILLE

* Joseph Lawton (d. Blackswamp, March 5, 1815 - Aged 61 years)
* Sarah Lawton (Sarah Robert Lawton) (b. St. James, Santee, Feb. 6, 1765 - d. Blackswamp, October 6, 1839 - Aged 84 years - 62 years a Baptist)

* Martha Lawton (d. 1836 - Consort of Colonel Alexander J. Lawton)
* Alexander James Lawton (d. 1836) 8 Apr. 1876
Captain Edward P. Lawton, C. S. A. (d. Dec. 13, 1862 while leading charge at Fredericksburg, - Aged 30 years)

Note: Other Lawtons, Bosticks, etc. also.

8. ROBERT CEMETERY

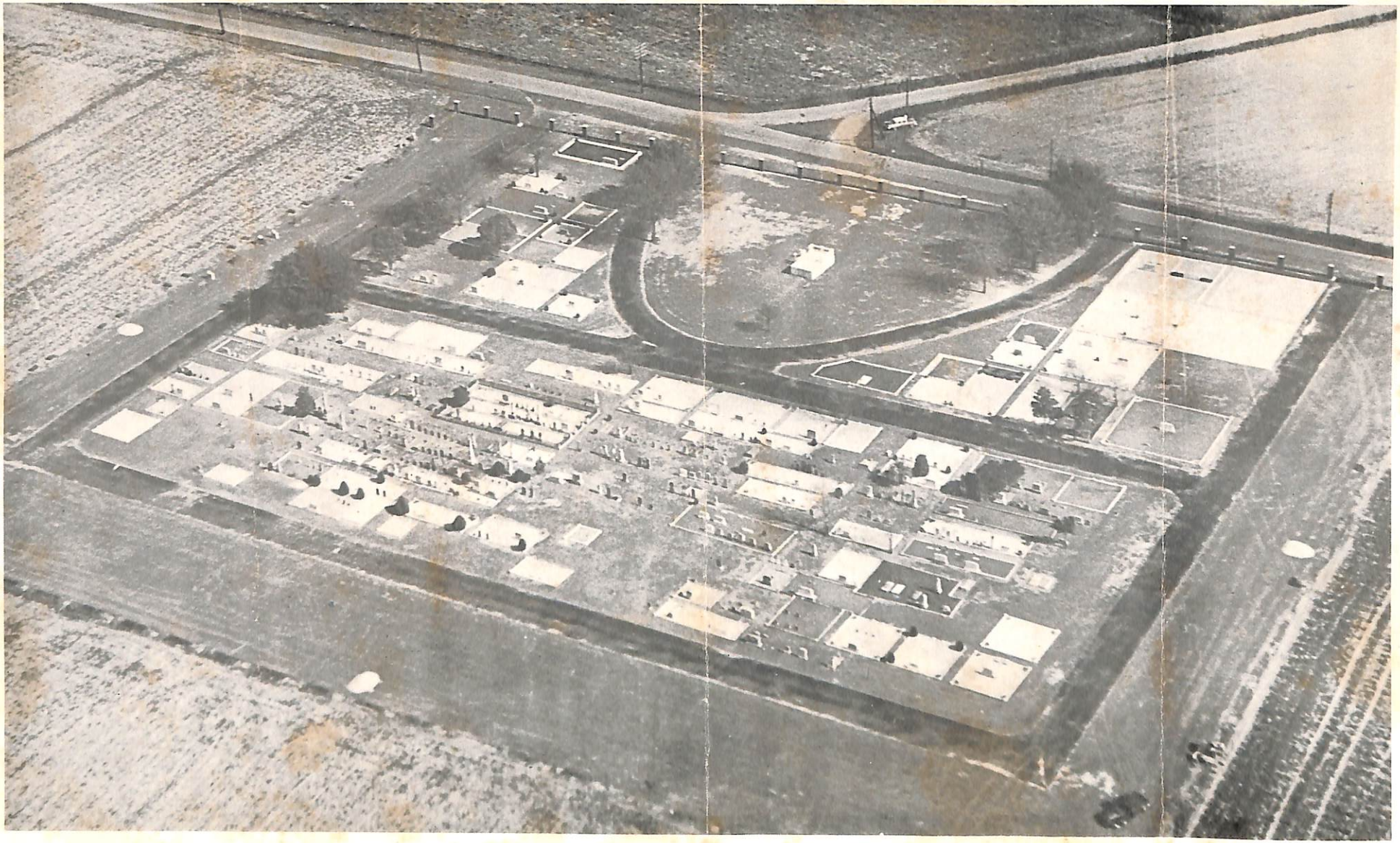
Richard Franklin Bostick m. Isabella Robert (d. 1832, on "The Home", off Cape Hateras)
3. John H. Robert (d. 1835) 10 Dec. 1775-
Anne Maner Robert
1. Mary Harriet m. Rich. Bostick
2. Eliz. Anne m. Thos. Bu. Singleton
5. Wm Henry m. Margaret Cravens, Susan Jones, Wife
* - John Robert (b. Santee, July 1742 - d. Feb. 24, 1826, Aged 83 years)
* - Elizabeth Robert (Consort of John Robert, Esq., Eldest daughter of Thomas Dixon of James Island, - d. Nov. 1820 at Blackswamp)
Frederic: Mary Caroline m. Hill 7. Benjamine Nathaniel Robert (d. April 17, 1849 - Aged 66 years) b. 18 May 1787
4. Thomas Robert (d. 1816) Thomas Smith 21 Dec 1777 - 6 March 1816)
Rev. Robert Brooks (d. 1822)
Charles Miller, Esq. (d. 1827)
Richard Cole (b. November 5, 1776 - d. November 11, 1837)
Robert Lewis (Native of Liverpool - d. Sept. 8, 1825 - Aged 30 years)
1st wif. of 6. * Charlotte A. - Wife of James J. Robert (d. July 1814 - Aged 31 years)
Sarah Caroline Singleton (Consort of Charles T. J. Singleton, m. 1824- d. August 4, 1825 - Aged 19 years) 1 son: Col. Joseph Lawton Singleton
Dau. of Joseph J. Lawton & Phoebe Dessel OF C 336 wid. Willingham 7 Aug 1780 - 30 Dec. 1823
Sarah Jaudon (Wife of Elias G. Jaudon - d. Dec. 30, 1823 - Aged 43 years)
15 May 1772 - 10 Mar. 1826 Elias G. Jaudon (d. March 19, 1826 - Aged 53 years)
Mrs. Sarah Brooks (Widow of Rev. Benj. Brooks)
Mary Eliz Carter Rich. Lawton * 1791-1824 Mary Carter Lawton (Wife of W. A. Lawton) (25 June 1776 + 25 Feb. 1823)
Peter Jaudon (D. December 17, 1824 - Aged 33 years)
Emelia Magdaline (Wife of Isaac A. E. Chovin - b. March 26, 1792 - d. November 10, 1822)
Wm. Henry Verstille (d. 1827)
Adelaide M. Chovin (Wife of R. Henry Chovin and daughter of Lavinia Oswald of Beaufort.)

Note: Also Bosticks, Brisbanes, Polhill infants, etc.

8. Sarah Dixon 1799-1794
9. Lucia 1792-1794
10. Daniel Jaudon 1794

LAWTONVILLE CEMETERY

January 1957



ALL-SAINTS... CHURCH LAWTON.

ADAM AND EVE ALMS DISH.

PLATE WITH A HISTORY.

'Adam and Eve' Alms Dish... All Saints ...

The large brass plate which stands on the small credence table near the altar, is used to receive the collecting plates brought up to the front of the Church by Sidesmen during services.

It is said to be one of only four such surviving plates in the country, and is known as an 'Adam and Eve Alms Dish'.

Close inspection will reveal just why it has been given this name, for its centre bears a rather primitive, yet intricately-detailed picture of Adam and Eve, carefully tooled into the brass. Adam stands on the left, an ugly-looking club gripped in his right hand, whilst his left hand is stretched out towards Eve, who faces him on the right. He appears to be reaching out for the apple which she is temptingly holding up in her right hand. This is still attached to a branch, seemingly broken off from the tree behind them, and in its turn firmly held in the mouth of the serpent, which is coiled around the trunk of the tree, its head extended above Eve.

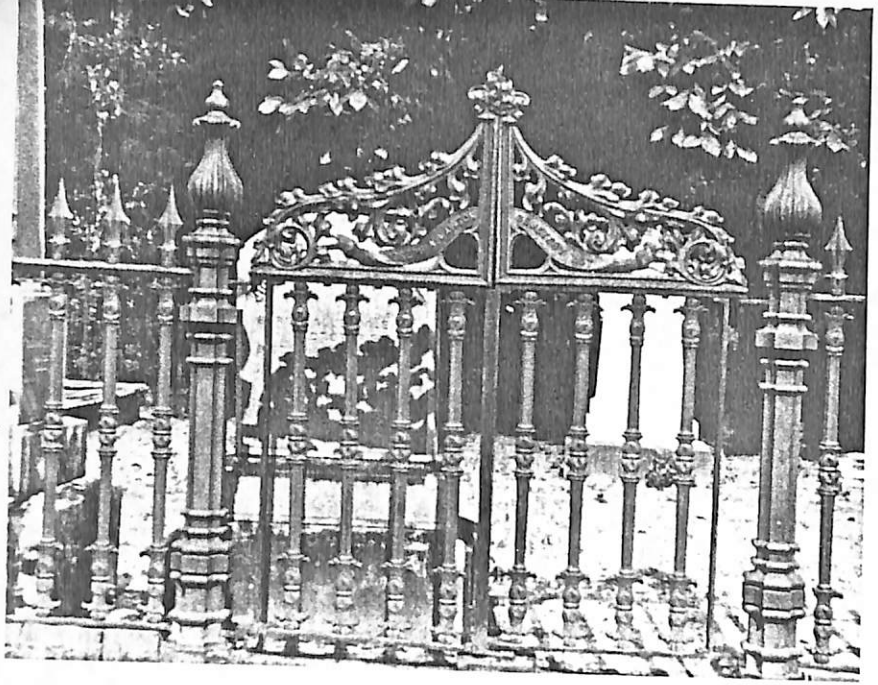
The figures have surprisingly shapely legs, and very distinct ribs, although the craftsman who carried out the work could not have been very knowledgeable about anatomy, as he only gave them three pairs each (and what happened to the one which Adam is supposed to have lost to Eve ?) Behind the figures, the tree has beautifully-shaped branches and leaves, and bears several more apples. The rim of the plate has to be examined at close quarters to fully appreciate the delicate workmanship used in the intricate patterns which it bears; the two outer circles of pattern being built up by a continuous coiled-rope effect, the detail of which has to be seen to be believed.

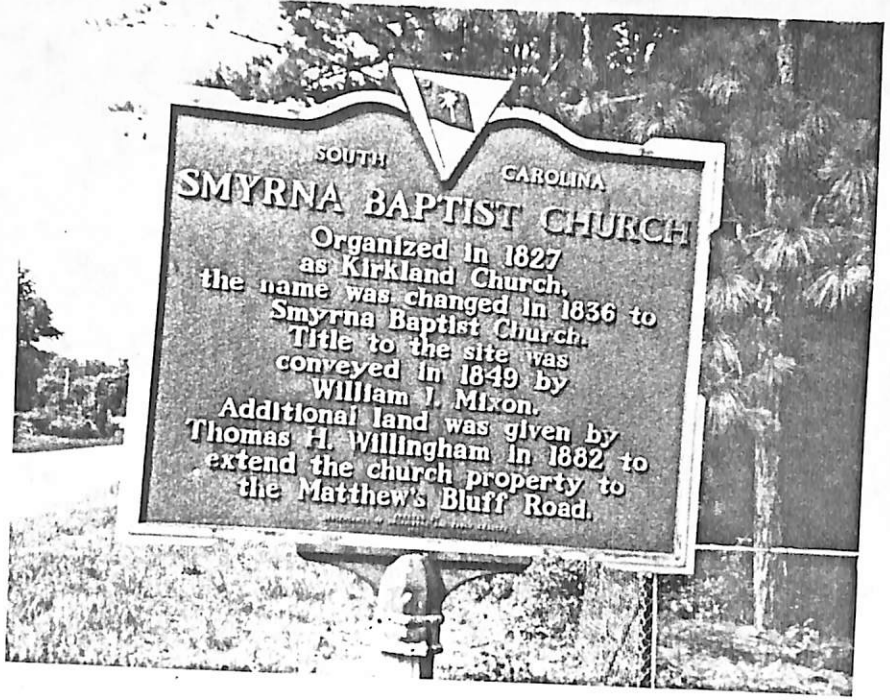
Alas we have no record of just how old is the plate, and for how many centuries it has been in use in our Church, but we do however know that it was in use in 1817, for it was during that year that it mysteriously disappeared. Almost eighty years were to elapse before it was found, lying at the bottom of the canal, during dredging work, presumably having lain there for all the years it had been missing.

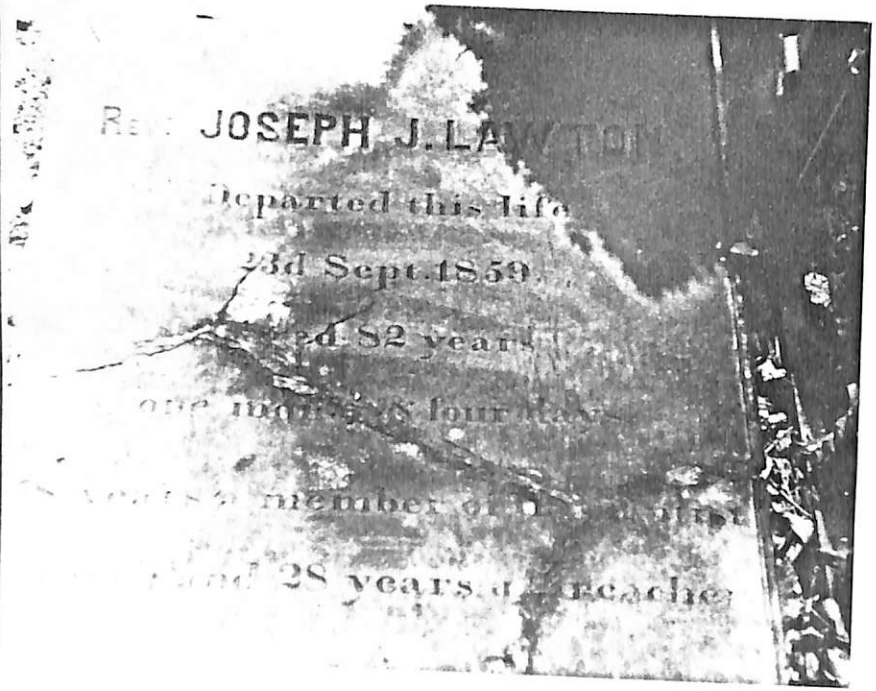
It is thought that it may have been stolen in the belief that it was made of gold, and on realization that it was merely brass, had been thrown by the thief into the canal. It is said that at the time of the discovery there was just one old lady in the parish who could remember back to the time when she had seen it being used in Church all those years previously.

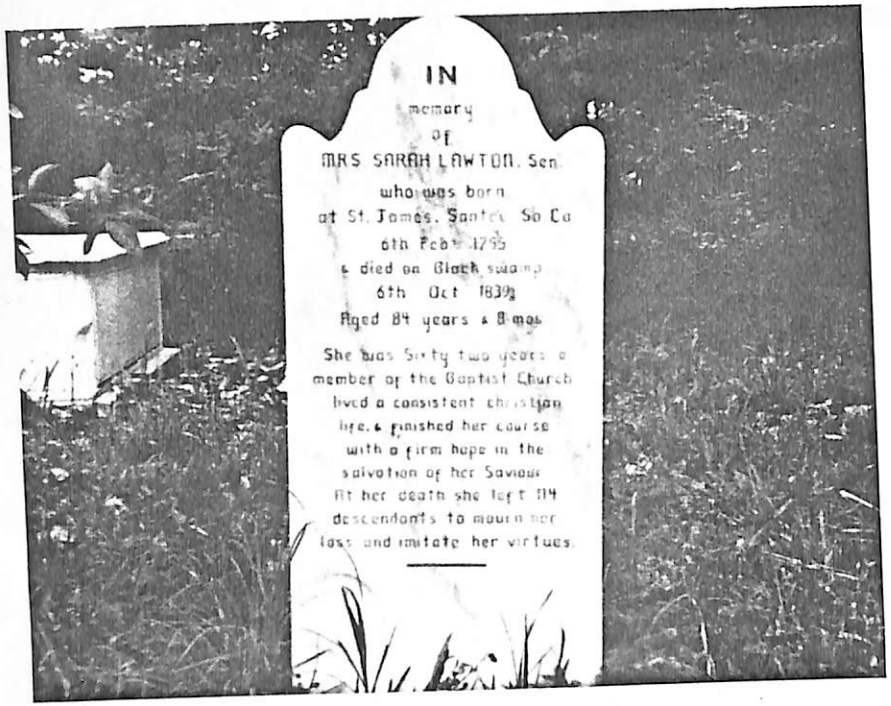
Whether the evident signs of damage to the plate were a result of its sojourn in the canal, or merely the result of general wear and tear over the ages is not known. Whatever the cause, it was decided in 1968 that it was in need of urgent repair, and these repairs were carried out by Mr. L. Roberts, thus ensuring that this ancient vessel could continue in use in our Church for what we hope will be countless more generations yet to come.

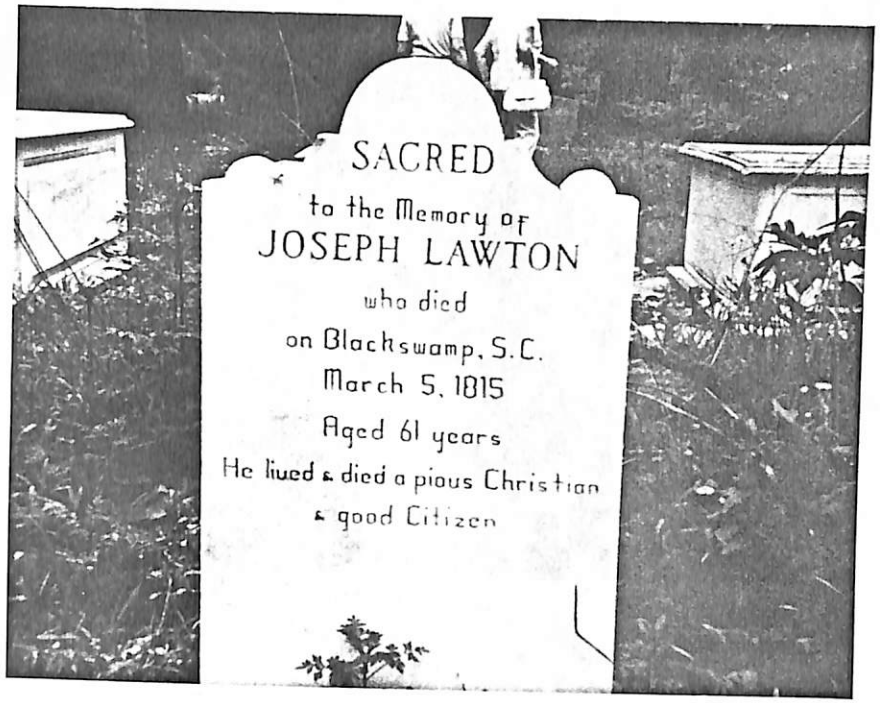
S.J.T.




SOUTH CAROLINA
SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH
Organized in 1827
as Kirkland Church,
the name was changed in 1836 to
Smyrna Baptist Church.
Title to the site was
conveyed in 1849 by
William J. Mixon.
Additional land was given by
Thomas H. Willingham in 1882 to
extend the church property to
the Matthew's Bluff Road.


JOSEPH J. LAWTON
Departed this life
23d Sept. 1859
82 years
28 years


IN
memory
of
MRS SARAH LAWTON, Sen
who was born
at St. James, Santee So Ca
6th Feb 1795
& died on Black swamp
6th Oct 1839
Aged 84 years & 8 mos
She was Sixty two years a
member of the Baptist Church
lived a consistent christian
life, & finished her course
with a firm hope in the
salvation of her Saviour
At her death she left 114
descendants to mourn her
loss and imitate her virtues.


SACRED
to the Memory of
JOSEPH LAWTON
who died
on Blackswamp, S.C.
March 5, 1815
Aged 61 years
He lived & died a pious Christian
& good Citizen

At entrance outside wall like an historical marker:

LAWTON-SEABROOK CEMETERY ~~is~~ on the plantation where CAPTAIN WILLIAM (~~"now living."~~ Lawton lived.) formerly ~~the~~ property of Rev. WILLIAM TILLY, ~~it was~~ sold by TILLY'S executors PAUL, ISAAC, ~~AND~~ & JOSUA GRIMBALL ~~and~~ & JOHN JENKINS to CAPTAIN LAWTON within two months of TILLY'S death April 14, 1744. ~~WILLIAM~~ LAWTON'S ~~will of~~ October 9,1757 will left the tract ~~devised~~ to his widow MARY STONE GRIMBALL Lawton ~~the tract~~ for life with remainder to their son JOSEPH LAWTON. MARY married SAMUEL FICKLING, she ~~and then~~ released her interest to JOSEPH who with his wife SARAH ROBERT LAWTON sold the place to JOHN HANAHAN ~~on~~ December 13, 1774 ~~, Deed Book 6V, : 450, Charleston~~. The deed protects the ~~quarter of an acre~~ cemetery by "Saving and reserving ~~nevertheless~~ to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a CERTAIN BURYING PLACE or Grave Yard containing one quarter ~~quater of an~~ acre ~~within the tract of two hundred acres~~ of land where the family of Lawton and other of their near kindred ~~heretofore~~ have been accustomed ~~acustomed~~ to bury." ~~The~~ Rights of ingress and egress are ~~is~~ mentioned at least six times. Joseph Lawton, his wife and mother are buried at Robertville, ~~at~~ St Peter's Parish, Beaufort Dt.

Markers erected by Lawton Family Foundation June 1998

MARKERS

WILLIAM LAWTON ~~Lt. and~~ Captain Edisto Island Co. of Foot St. John's Colleton May 24 1757, ~~a~~ planter of 640 acres, ~~[illegible]~~ a "sober, discrete, and substantial" man. ~~He~~ was born about 1705 ~~in~~ the Cheshire England, married three times, and died ~~on~~ ~~Edisto~~ between October 9 and October 15, 1757.

MARY CLARKE Lawton, daughter of JEREMIAH CLARKE, married WILLIAM LAWTON and ~~about 1730~~. ~~Before Mary~~ died about 1743, ~~their~~ leaving four children included ~~and~~ SARAH LAWTON SEABROOK, ~~who is buried in this cemetery~~.

JOSIAH LAWTON, eldest child of WILLIAM and MARY LAWTON ~~was~~ born about 1732. His ~~will of~~ 15 October 15, 1757, Will ~~was~~ proved ~~on~~ 9 Dec. ~~9,~~ 1757 ~~leaving~~ left land to his brother Jeremiah, ~~and~~ personal estate to his brothers and sisters.

JEREMIAH LAWTON, son of WILLIAM and MARY LAWTON, ~~was~~ born about 1737 ~~dying~~ died unmarried and intestate, ~~his~~ His estate ~~was~~ appraised
20 May ~~20,~~ 1762.

WILLIAM LAWTON, JR., son of WILLIAM and MARY LAWTON ~~was~~ born about 1735 ~~dying~~ died unmarried and intestate, ~~his~~ His estate ~~was~~ appraised Jan. ~~1,~~ 1759.

MARY WINBORN Lawton, daughter of THOMAS WINBORN of Wadmalaw, ~~married~~ became 2nd wife of WILLIAM LAWTON ~~about~~ about 1725 ~~as his 2nd wife about 1745~~. Their two children were WINBORN LAWTON of Charleston and James Island and MARY LAWTON RUSSELL of Charleston.

WILLIAM TILLY came to Charleston 1721 from Salisbury, England, was ordained as a Baptist minister on Edisto after 1731 and died at 48yrs. on Edisto April 14, 1744. He is probably buried here.

MARKERS EDISTO ISLAND CEMETERY = Page 1

1. Captain William Lawton

Born c ~~1700~~ 1707

Died Edisto Island between 5 October 9, 1757, and the October 15, 1757, will of son Josiah. Both wills proved Charleston December 9, 1757.

Planter ~~with~~ of two adjoining plantations on Edisto.

~~Lt. and~~ Captain, Edisto Island Co. Of Foot St. John's Colleton May 24, 1757

Trustee with brother-in-law William Jenkins of trust for benefit of Presbyterian Congregation on Edisto in April 10, 1750 will of their brother-in-law James Clarke.

Appointed Overseer of Poor by Vestry of Anglican Congregation for Edisto with two other "sober, discreet, and substantial men".

Married (1) Mary Clark, daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Clark. Children: Josiah, William Jr. Sarah (b. 1739, ~~M~~married John Seabrook, and died Oct. 21, 1798; ~~B~~both buried in this Cemetery.), Jeremiah Lawton,

(2) Mary Winborn, daughter of Thomas Winborn ~~and Susannah Carriere (1703-1780, daughter of Jean Carriere~~) Children: Winborn Lawton (b Edisto 1747, died Sept. 22, 1809, buried James Island) and Mary Lawton (b.c. 1748)

(3) Mary Stone, widow of Paul Grimball Jr and daughter of John Stone and Susannah Carriere Stone, (later wife of Thomas Winborn) born ~~on~~ c. 1720, ~~And~~ died 1803, ~~1804~~ as widow of Samuel Fickling. Buried Robertville, St. Peter's Parish, Beaufort Dist. ~~Dt. 1804~~

One son Joseph Lawton born Edisto Oct. 18, 1753, died Mulberry Grove Plantation, ~~at~~ Robertville March 15, 1815. Buried next to his mother at Robertville.

MARKERS con'td

2. Mary Clarke married Captain Wm. Lawton c. 1730, died ~~Prior to death~~ before 1743, mother of four living children

3. Mary Winborn married Captain William Lawton c. 1745, ~~Prior to death c~~ mother of 2 living children.

4. Josiah Lawton, planter, eldest child of Captain Wm. Lawton b. c 1732. Will dated 6 days after father's will, proved Dec. 9,1757. His inherited half of 460 Cuthbert tract ~~was left~~ left to his brother Jeremiah, his personal estate ~~devised~~ to his brothers and sisters

5. Wm. Lawton, Jr. born c. 1735 died unmarried and intestate. Estate appraised Jan 1, 1759

6. Jeremiah Lawton born c 1741 died unmarried and intestate. Personal estate appraised May 20, 1762

7. The Rev. Wm. Tilly came to America from Salisbury England in ~~1741~~ 1721. Called to ministry at Charleston. Ordained after 1731 Edisto Island (~~later Euhaw Church~~). Died April 14,1744 age 46 years and was buried on Edisto Island, ~~Tilly is~~ thought to be buried here. His Executors Paul, Isaac, and Joshua Grimball and John Jenkins ~~advertised~~ sold his 200 acres ~~and sold it~~ to Captain Wm. Lawton May 14& 15 1744.

Tilly came 1721

MARKER BY ENTRANCE

The Lawton-Seabrook Cemetery is on the plantation where Captain William Lawton lived and ~~devised~~ left to his widow Mary Stone Grimball Lawton for life and then to ~~his~~ their son Joseph Lawton. His widow, then, Mary Fickling, released her interest to their son Joseph who with his wife, Sarah Robert Lawton, sold the place to John Hanahan December 13, 1774; Deed Book 6V, p. 450 ~~that~~ states " Saving and reserving nevertheless to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a CERTAIN BURYING Place or Grave Yard where the Lawtons and their near kindred have been accustomed to bury." This with the right of ingress and egress is repeated at least six times. The deed also ~~gives references for~~ refers to the previous owners of this tract which adjoined another 460 acre purchase by Captain Lawton from James Cuthbert in January 1750.

Dec 21, 1996

Jack & Bob -

Apparently I omitted page 2

When these papers were emailed to Jack

1 - Please check this -

2 - Send back to me your changes -

3 - I'll ~~study~~ study what you think is preferable and then go back to you, before we do final printing.

Merry Christmas,

Tom

Lawtonville Baptist Church has asked us to announce:

The Dedication Service for a marker commemorating the site and date of Pipe Creek Church, forerunner of Lawtonville Baptist Church, will be held on Sunday, April 21, at 4:30 PM. The site is located on land now a part of Bostick Plantation. Signs will point the way. The public is cordially invited to attend this historical event.

LAWTONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Estill, S. C. March 3rd 1936.

Miss Florence I. Lawton,

Estill, S. C.

Dear Florie:

My father, Capt. William Brisbane Peeples, attended the Lawtonville Academy, which was afterwards burned. This Academy was situated on the lefthand side as you entered the church from the Orangeburgh Road.

The solid brick wall around cemetery to Lawtonville Churchyard was about four and a-half (4½) or five (5) feet high, the brick being handmade by slaves on the plantation of Captain Edward H. Peeples, Sr. (my grandfather) before the ward 1861-1865. I saw this old wall and it was here until 1898. The United States soldiers tore town part of this wall of bricks and used them for their shanty chimneys to their tents.

United States soldiers died here and are buried outside at the rear of this cemetery.

My father, Captain William Brisbane Peeples, was a Captain of a company of Confederate soldiers.

The United States soldiers had my grandfather, Edward H. Peeples, Sr. Captain of the Home Guard at Lawtonville, Beaufort District, South Carolina, arrested at Lawtonville in United States Camp between 1861-1865. He was one of four Deacons of this Lawtonville Baptist Church before and after this war.

I was the last Deacon of the old Lawtonville Baptist church and am the oldest Deacon of the Estill Lawtonville Baptist Church.

C. L. Peeples

C. L. PEEPLES.

Dear Cousin Charlie -

Original (Charter) members of Beech Branch Bapt. Ch. 12 Sept 1759

John Youmans
Wm Smith
Saby Smith
Mary Manker
Wm Tuten
Nathan Johnston
Jonas ✓
Drucilla ✓

Robert J. Chisolme
Winifred Youmans
Thos. Hamilton
Lewis Manker
James Manker
Sarah Manker
Catherine Johnston
Frederick I Johnston

14 Nov 1809
Incorporated

Terrell Lee + Naomi
[Mamie Charlotte
Crapse male
Joe Lightsey [Piggly-Wiggly

Feb. 10, 1828 Mrs. Martha Norton came forward with a satisfactory experience of grace and is to be baptized the 24th inst.

1830, May 9th Nan, property of Miles A. Riley, baptized.

1833 Feb. 9th Brother Benj. T.D. Lawton "charged Sister Cailia Sherman with drinking spirituous liquors too freely".

1833 12 Jan. Brother Wm H. Brisbane elected Moderator; resigned 11 Aug. 1833

---

16 July 1833 Rebecca C. Peeples baptized
Selena Johnston ✓
Elizabeth M. Peeples ✓

1836 Mar 2nd Church agreed to call Brother B. I. Lawton to supply us.
Apr 9th Brother Lawton agreed.
11 June ✓ ✓ preached.

1837 Feb. 11 Reuben Youmans being "charged with getting drunk and with threatening to kill Mr. J. G. Owens and armed himself to do so".
Mar. 11th Bro. Youmans "regrets he got drunk but does not regret that he sought Owens' life". Excommunicated.

1841 9 Oct Nathan Johnston indicted for retailing spirits without license. – he denied same.
1842 13 Aug Excommunicated.

---

9 Dec. 1843 Committee to speak to Sister Eliza Johnston
10 Feb 1844 Eliza charged "with having gone to Jonas Johnston's to abuse his wife Laura
Sister Johnston arose + made a statement of the matter which gave satisfaction to the Church.

---

31 Aug 1846 Wm C. Johnston + Seaborn Smith baptized
9 Nov 1847 ✓ excommunicated for having "fidling + dancing in his house".

Reuben B C J Youmans excommunicated

---

13 Jan 1849 Rosella C Peeples + Mary Goettee apply for letter of Dismission to join the Sandy Hill Church which was granted.

June 12, 1859 Mrs. Rebecca McBride rec'd by letter from Sandy Run Ch.

THE PINELAND PLANTATION
POST OFFICE BOX 68
GARNETT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29922

THOMAS O. LAWTON, JR. (803) 625-2329

April 3, 1998

Dear Family:

The colonial Lawton-Seabrook Cemetery needs our financial help! We will visit the cemetery which is surrounded by an old brick wall that is on a creek off Steamboat Landing on Edisto Island, during the June 19th-20th Reunion.

The cemetery is located on the plantation where planter and militia officer Captain William Lawton lived. In his Oct. 9, 1757, will, he left it to his widow MARY STONE GRIMBALL LAWTON (later FICKLING) for her life and remainder to his then three year old son Joseph Lawton (1753-1815) who married SARAH ROBERT (1755-1839). When this property was sold to John Hanahan in 1774, Mary, Joseph, and Sarah executied necessary documents. Joseph's deed to Hanahan (Deed Book 6V, page 450 Charleston) was subject to "...Saving and reserving Nevertheless to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a certain BURYINGROUND or graveyard where the family of Lawton and their other near kindred is accustomed to bury..." and the deed recited in at least six places the right of ingress and egress.

John Hughes Boineau (who did extensive work on the project), Robert E. H. Peeples, and I studied documents, reviewed the site and drafted a number of times the wording on the then unmarked graves. The marked graves include SARAH LAWTON SEABROOK, her husband JOHN SEABROOK, their son WILLIAM SEABROOK, and other family members.

Dyal Memorials, Inc., a most reputable firm, has presented drawings. He recommends: for the mounted aluminum post (28"x24") at the entrance to the quarter-of-an-acre cemetery with a history of the site; for Captain Lawton's grave, another mounted cast aluminum post (36" x 30"). For the seven other graves, he recommends gray granite bases with steel finish tops (24'x12"x6"). These graves are for JOSIAH LAWTON, JEREMIAH LAWTON, WILLIAM LAWTON, JR, MARY CLARKE LAWTON, MARY WINBORN LAWTON, and THE REV. WILLIAM TILLY, whose marker may be somewhat larger. The total cost,

including $314.65 for SC Sales Tax is $6607.65. We need funds to finish this and to maintain the unendowed Robert Cemetery and the portions of Robertvlle Cemetery, as well as other monuments of mutual interest that have no descent-ants to care for the stones in our family cemeteries in upper St. Peter's Parish. We also need to continue buying publications of historical and genealogical interest to give to various institutions. Such is needed to keep our tax status in good order.

Please give whatever you can as quickly as you can for this worthwhile project! Your gifts will be an income tax deduction: Fed No. is 57-0868637. Checks should be mailed to:

David G. Hodges, Treasurer
Lawton Family Foundation
PO Box 8475
Columbia, SC 29202

A wonderful reunion at beautiful Edisto Island is planned. We look forward to seeing you.

Cordially

Tom

Thomas O. Lawton,Jr

NORTHERLY PORTION OF ST. PETERS PARRISH, "OLD" BEAUFORT DISTRICT

(NOW PARTS OF HAMPTON, ALLENDALE AND JASPER COUNTIES, SOUTH CAROLINA)

Key:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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14.

15. The Hermitage, plantation residence of Hon. George Rhodes (11 Jan 1802 - 20 Oct 1881), Signer of The Ordinance of Secessi[illegible] as Representative from St. Peter's Parish, burned 8 Feb. 1865 by Gen. Sherman's 20th Corps.

16. Jericho, plantation residence of John Lawton and his wife Elizabeth Stoney Peeples who was given Jericho as a wedding present by her father, Edward Harden Peeples, in 1851.

17. Plantation residence of Edward Harden Peeples (9 Oct 1811 - 24 Nov 1892) Capt., C.S.A., and his wife Charlotte Esther Lawton; built 1857, it was burned by Gen. Sherman's 20th Corps 8 Feb. 1865.

18. Plantation residence of Thomas Willingham, Jr. and his wife Phoebe Sarah Lawton (sister of Charlotte Esther Lawton Peeples, both dans. of Benjamin Themistocles D'Ion Lawton and his wife Jane, dau. of Dr. George Mosse); built 1828, accidentally burned 1930.

19. Robertville Baptist Church; James John Robert (4 Nov. 1781 - 19 Jan. 1852) was Deacon here for 50 years; Joseph and Sarah Robert Lawton are buried in the Churchyard.

20. Black Swamp Methodist Church, burned by vandals 1968, built 1790.

21. Episcopal Church of The Heavenly Rest, St. Peter's Parish Church after the burning of St. Peter's Church, Robertville in 1865.

22. Plantation home of John Williamson Peeples (27 Oct. 1850 - 4 Apr. 1914) and his wife, Eliza Jane (Lila) Rhodes (6 Oct. 1852 - 28 March 1915), married 8 April 1869; this home was built in 1887 and burned in 1916; an earlier residence stood immediately across the Orangeburg Road from it. In 1912 Mr. and Mrs. Peeples moved to their handsome residence at West Seaboard Ave. and 5th Street in Estill.

23. Robert Family Cemetery

24. Plantation residence of Jesse Williamson Peeples, member of S.C. Legislature from St. Peter's Parish, assassinated 1856.

Parish News

CHURCH LAWTON

1993 OCTOBER

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THE LAWTON REVIEW – OCTOBER 1993

Rector	Revd. Graham Joyce, The Rectory, Liverpool Road West (0270 882103)
Honorary Clergy	Revd. Joe Yates-Round, 5 Willow Tree Grove, Rode Heath (0270 883425)
Lay Reader	Mr. Robert New, 52 Sandbach Road, Rode Heath (0270 874602)
Churchwardens	Mr. Harold Dowler, 91 Chatterley Drive, Kidsgrove (0782 786763) Mr. Roy Giltrap, 5 Woodgate Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 873839)
Deputy Wardens	Mr. Graham Tyler and Mr. Vincent Jones
Secretary P.C.C.	Mrs. Judy Breedon, 14 Crossway Road, Church Lawton (0270 882995)
Treasurer P.C.C.	Mrs. Louisa Turner, 2 Grove Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 878355)
Flower Organiser	Mrs. Sue Dowler, 91 Chatterley Drive, Kidsgrove (0782 786763)
Magazine Editor and Distributor	Mrs. Mary Adams, 33 Woodgate Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 874619)
Organists	Mr. Robert New and Mr. Trevor Tooth
P.C.C. Members	Messrs. Don Breedon, Paul Cruxton, Harold Dowler, Roy Giltrap, Robert New, Graham Tyler, Derek Woodward, Joe Yates-Round. Mesdames Mary Adams, Elsie Beech, Lilian Bishop, Nicola Bishop, Judy Breedon, Margaret Cruxton, Susan Dowler, Joyce Fletcher, Anne New, Rachel Patrick, Jean Steer, Louisa Turner, June Tyler, Rita Woodward.

CALENDAR

Date	Time	Service	Sidesmen	Servers	Cleaning & Flowers
October 3rd 18th after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Mr. Taylor Mr. & Mrs. D. Breedon Mr. & Mrs. A. New	J. Steer M. Cruxton	CL: Mr. & Mrs. V.Jones FL: Guild Wedding In memory of Rev. Lewis
October 10th 19th after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Songs of Praise	Mr. Washington Mrs. N. Fryer & Mrs. E. Freeborn Mrs.B. Bailey	Miss E. Turner Miss R. Adams	CL:Mr. & Mrs. J. Tyler FL: Guild
October 17th Last Sunday after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Evening Prayer	Mr. R. Richardson Mrs. I. Patrick Mrs. K. Giltrap Mrs. D. Leese	J. Steer Miss E. Turner	CL:Mrs. E. Bellerby Mrs. D. Leese FL: Mrs. A. Taylor
October 24th 9th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Service Evening Prayer	Mrs. K. Hughes Mr. & Mrs. V. Jones Mrs. A. New	Miss E. Turner	CL: Mr. & Mrs. R. New FL: Guild
October 31st 8th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion TEAR FUND PRAISE SERVICE	Mr. G. Tyler Mrs. C. Bellingham & Mr. J. Turner Mrs. B. Bailey	M. Cruxton Miss R. Adams	CL:Mrs. Giltrap & Mrs. Dowler FL: Guild
Nov. 7th 7th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Evening Prayer	Mr. B. Plant Mrs. L. Bishop & Mrs. A. Joyce Mrs. D. Leese	J. Steer M. Cruxton	CL:Mr. & Mrs. H. Dowler FL: Mrs. Turner

DIARY DATES

Midweek Communion	– Each Wednesday at 10.15 a.m.
Saturday Morning Prayers	– In The Rectory at 9.00 a.m.
House Groups	– Each Monday at The Rectory - 8.00 p.m. – Each Thursday at 65 Brown Avenue - 9.45 a.m. – Each Thursday at 55 Brown Avenue - 8.00 p.m.
Mothers' Union	– First Wednesday in month The Rectory - 2.15 p.m. – Third Wednesday in month The Rectory - 8.00 p.m.
Youth Group	– Sundays at 7.00 p.m. Contact Margaret Cruxton
Junior Church	– Every Sunday (except Family Service) at The Rectory - 10.30 a.m. Contact Anne New
Music Worship Group	– Contact Robert New
Outreach Group	– Contact Don & Judy Breedon
Bellringers	– Contact Harold Dowler
Holy Communion at *Lawton Manor Nursing Home *Southdown Home *Aidenswood Home	– Alternate Wednesdays at 11.00 a.m.

COPY FOR THE NOVEMBER MAGAZINE TO BE WITH EDITOR BY 16th OCTOBER

From the Rector

"God is there, and he matters!"

This was the first title taken up by our new House Groups during September. It is also a statement that is believed by more than two-thirds of the parents who were interviewed in a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for the Independent newspaper. *More than two-thirds of parents think children should be taught that there is a God and say prayers in school, while nearly half believe they should learn that the Bible is true.* said the Independent on Monday, 6th September.

From where I sit it seems that many in Church Lawton would echo this view, but have not considered its implications. If there is no God then all that we do as Christians is futile. But if God is there then it is ridiculous to respond to him with anything less than our whole being. If God is there then our lives need to revolve around him.

In the beginning God made everything that existed. In his perfect timing he made all of us! Have you ever stopped to ask why he should do all that?

Our church exists so that we have a forum to worship God, and so that we encourage each other in finding out more about him. At the centre of our Christian belief is the man, Jesus, the Son of God, who lived and died voluntarily so that in so doing he might take upon himself the punishment for sin that all people deserve. As we take hold of the fact, and receive God's forgiveness, we become more and more aware of God's immense love for us as individuals, and for all people everywhere. As we take hold of that love we realise that God has made himself known in Jesus, and that a personal friendship with God is accessible to everyone.

All the evidence points to the fact that God is there, and he matters! If you are one of the many people who believe in God, but do not yet know his love and power in your life, - if you do not have that all important personal friendship with Jesus, then come and join us in church for any of our services and find our more. If you would like a chat about these things in the comfort of your own home then just ring me, Joe or Rob and we will be pleased to visit you.

If that sounds a bit threatening, then pick up one of three small books at the back of church. *Journey into Life* by Norman Warren is a well known guide to knowing Jesus personally, as are David Watson's *Start a New Life* and Nicky Gumbel's *Why Jesus?* Each book has its own characteristics - choose the one that is best for you.

Looking at our Church yard it seems as if the growing season has nearly come to an end. We are enormously grateful to John Murray and his team for the hard work they have done. When they began work the whole area was horribly overgrown, and they have done magnificently in bringing things under control. I learned recently that some people think that John is employed by the church to tend individual graves. This is not the case, and graves remain the responsibility of those families concerned. John is available to work on individual graves but arrangements for him to do this must be made with him by the families concerned. John's telephone number is in the advertisements in this magazine.

One of the biggest pitfalls facing any church is **misunderstanding.** I value the opinions of those who form the membership of All Saints, and I value the views of all our parishioners. It is both helpful and important to let me have your views on all that we do together as a church. Both Harold and Roy (our Church Wardens) are around during services, and may be contacted by telephone. In addition I welcome views which are expressed to me directly - face to face, on the telephone, or in writing. I cannot promise to agree with every view that is expressed, but I will do my best to listen; it is my experience that saying what we feel does help us to avoid misunderstandings. Our unity as a church is a very fragile item. I am keen to preserve our unity and to serve the needs of both church and community. Don't sit there grumbling to yourself - get in touch with us and tell us what your are thinking!

A BIG THANK YOU to all who contributed to the sample copy of our new magazine, and to all who expressed appreciation of it. Please be writing and submitting for our first "proper" edition which should be with Mary, our Editor, early in December.

May our good, great and generous God bless us all super-abundantly!

Yours sincerely
Graham Joyce

***

NEWSBITS!

The Decade of Evangelism is high on our agenda during October, with several meetings where the Archbishops' Advisers in Evangelism will be speaking. Both Canon Michael Green and Bishop Michael Marshall are excellent speakers, and I encourage all who are able to go along and hear what they have to say.

On Monday, 4th October all the clergy from the Diocese will be together for the day at Northwich. Both Michael Green and Michael Marshall will be speaking, so we will all be returning full of enthusiasm and wisdom for the task of evangelism. Look out Church Lawton!

On Thursday, 7th October Michael Green will address a joint meeting of clergy from our own Congleton Deanery and neighbouring Nantwich Deanery. *Please pray for this meeting that we would keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and the commission he has given to us (see Matthew 28, verses 19-20).*

On the same day the entire P.C.C. will be travelling to Nantwich to hear Michael Green. Any others who would like the opportunity to hear Michael Green are most welcome to come along - have a word with me!

On Sunday, 10th October, our service at 10.45 a.m. will be one of family Communion, with a guest preacher and President, the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, the Ven. John Gaisford. I hope that all members of All Saints will be present on this occasion, and that together we will benefit from John's ministry to us.

Our Songs of Praise Service is on the same day at 6.00 p.m.

To compensate for the changes on 10th October our services on 3rd October will be 10.45 a.m. Morning Prayer, and 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion.

On Saturday, 16th October there is a conference called "Reason to Believe" at Stockport Town Hall, starting at 9.30 p.m. and finishing at 4 p.m. The speakers will be Canon Michael Green and Canon John Holmes (Ripon Diocesan Missioner). I would like two or more members of our church to represent us at Stockport - offers please to me as soon as possible.

On the same day **Tear Fund is holding its 25th Anniversary event** at the Manchester Freed Trade Hall. Tickets are £5 each and are available through me. Presenters include singer Garth Hewitt, poet Stewart Henderson and singers/musicians Wellspring. This event carries my personal recommendation!

Our Guest Speaker on Sunday, 17th October at 10.45 a.m. is Rev. Trevor Blackshaw from Crosslinks. Trevor will be also speaking over lunch at the Rectory - lunch tickets are available from Emma Turner (0270) 878355) price £2 each.

We all get an extra hour in bed as clocks should be put BACK ONE HOUR before going to bed on Saturday, 23rd October. British Summer Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 24th October.

On Sunday, 31st October, at 6.00 p.m. our Evening Worship will take the form of a Praise Service. Our Guest Speaker will be Brendan Bowles who works for Tear Fund. This is one of the organisations that we have chosen to support, and it is an organisation in which I have taken a personal interest for many years. It would be marvellous to have the church full on this occasion - you will not be disappointed!

Finally, Monday, 1st November is ALL SAINTS DAY. We will be having a special service at 7.30 p.m. Please come along to take part in the praise, prayer, and saying thank you to God for all that he is doing amongst us.

The Schools interest in the church

During the last school term the top junior children of Church Lawton Gate School, undertook a project about the church. This was to be the initial research for the year six children on buildings, because it had been arranged for them to continue their

Chester Diocesan News No. 816 October 1993

The Church Commissioners

Many people in the diocese will know about the well-publicised troubles of the Church Commissioners: reports from a group appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and from Coopers & Lybrand, chartered accountants, were published at the end of July. They criticised the Church Commissioners' management of their assets and made potentially far-reaching recommendations for the future.

CDN does not offer the space for a detailed analysis of the problems facing the church in the light of these reports, but we are quoting from a letter sent to all parishes by Peter Mills, the Diocesan Secretary, Laurie Evans, the Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, and Stewart Darlow, Chairman of the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod.

"We explained last autumn that the support given by the Commissioners to clergy stipends and housing in the Diocese of Chester will have gone down by nearly a third between 1990/1 and 1994/5. The situation is now worse than we expected. The indications are that there will be no allocations from the Commissioners in four years time.

We would like to make just one comment. A loss of £800m has been reported. 90% of this is no more a real loss than is a temporary reduction in house values and will disappear if asset values recover. The loss of the Commissioners' income is the more serious issue.

Although we should not be seeking recrimination, there may be some anger around in the parishes. It is important to realise that the persons principally concerned in making the decisions which are now seen to be wrong (even though they were made in good faith at the time) have already left the Commissioners. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Sir Michael Colman, who now heads the Church Commissioners as First Estates Commissioner, are determined that the church should learn from the mistakes. Action will be taken, and soon.

It is still too early to say what the full implications for the Church of England will be, but it goes without saying that the next few years will not be easy. We shall monitor closely the cost of diocesan administration. We might have to review again the operation of the Ministry Support Fund. We imagine that some pastoral reorganisation might be necessary in order to save costs; this cannot be undertaken quickly.

But we wonder how far it will be necessary or desirable to take drastic action. There is no reason why we should not maintain the same number of clergy (but perhaps not the same number of church buildings) given the right approach to Christian stewardship. The Biblical standard of giving is one tenth. The Church of England challenges its members to give 5% of net income to and through the church. If we could reach this level, we would be financially secure! We hope that all parishes will pursue the 'Love to Give' initiative available from Diocesan House."

It must be emphasised that parishes do not contribute any new money to the Church Commissioners' funds, except that the Commissioners operate a centralised payroll system and the diocese sends them money to pay the stipends of parish clergy.

The Bishop of Chester writes on page 2 about the visit to the diocese of Bishop Michael Marshall (left) and Canon Michael Green.

CDN is edited and typeset by the Revd T R Barker at All Saints' Vicarage, Highlands Road, Runcorn, WA7 4PS (tel: 0928 575666; fax: 0928 581868). It is printed by Cowdall's Printing Company, P O Box 1, 16 Flag Lane, Crewe, CW1 3BQ (0270 212389).
Deadline for November: Monday 4 October, please.

The Bishop of Chester encourages us to

Take the plunge

The boy climbed up on to the springboard which was overhanging the swimming pool. With the eye of a holidaying observer, I looked to see the dive - but it did not happen. Instead, the boy started bouncing on the springboard with all his vigour. After quite a while another lad joined him. Together they bounced with even greater energy and the springboard certainly sprang impressively! Yet neither dived in.

Springboards are, of course, for springing off, not for springing on: they are meant to give us a life either for swimming or for gymnastics. So it is with the visit of the Archbishops' SPRINGBOARD team to the diocese this month. It is easy to discuss evangelism, to train for it and to watch others doing it. We can go on springing for ever, but the actual diving in and doing it can still not happen.

I have sympathy with the youngsters at the swimming pool. Frankly, I only go to swimming pools out of a sense of duty, and I would rather spring on the board than dive in. We all have inner hesitation about actually sharing with others the gospel or what Christ means to us. So do I. In curacy days on going out house to house for evangelism, I always dragged my feet and went out late; but once under way, I was always amazed at the openness of so many (as well as the opposition and bitterness of others), so I always got home late. The reluctance and joy still continues 37 years later.

I also have sympathy with those who bounce on the springboard and fall in accidentally. My own experience of that as a child probably caused my dislike of diving. I was not ready; I seemed to swallow half the swimming pool. I was afraid, did not manage to swim and just sank. So with sharing the gospel: we can fall into it without warning. We were bouncing happily on the training board when suddenly, perhaps, we were asked a direct question at work or college or school as to why we are a Christian. We sank and did not swim, failing to cope and retreating embarrassed - reluctant ever to be drawn again.

Others do the training and dive in, but again find it very difficult to put theory into practice.

So, if you feel reluctant about evangelising, you are in good company but you must get back on the board. This is why the visit of the SPRINGBOARD team to our diocese is an opportunity for us all, even for experienced witnesses.

The SPRINGBOARD team is headed by Bishop Michael Marshall and by Canon Michael Green with his wife Rosemary and with Martin Cavender. They are from very different churchmanships, but are endued with outstanding evangelistic gifts. This is why the Archbishop of Canterbury invited them to return from the USA and Canada to help the whole Church of England in this Decade of Evangelism.

They will not only use their gifts on various outreach occasions amongst us, but will also share in training us to spring and dive more effectively. These gifted leaders understand what today's pool is like, the society and world in which we seek to bring the gospel. They are immensely effective communicators and strategists in 'bringing Christ to this generation'.

We welcome them to the Diocese of Chester and pray that their visit may be a further significant milestone in the Decade of Evangelism in our diocese and in all of our lives.

Don't miss out on the springboard, nor on taking the plunge, for Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. The more who plunge in, the bigger the ripples and waves that will result!

Yours sincerely,

+Michael

Springboard events

There are two major lay training days on Saturdays from 9.30 am to 4 pm, one at Ellesmere Port Indoor Centre on 2 October and the other at Stockport Town Hall on 16 October. There is a day for all the clergy on Monday 4 October at the Memorial Hall in Northwich. Many other events and gatherings are going on across the time our visitors are with us this month: open meetings for men in Macclesfield (The King's School, 7.30 pm, 5 October), for women in Broadheath (Blessed Thomas Halford School, 8 pm, Wednesday 6 October), and for young people at Bebington (St Andrew's Church, 8 pm, Sunday 10 October). Bishop Michael Marshall spends Saturday 9 October with the Readers at the Cathedral. There are evening evangelistic meetings at Wallasey Town Hall (12 October), Christ Church, Birkenhead (22 October) and St Mary Magdalene's Church, Ashton-upon-Mersey (23 October). Just turn up for these events - but local clergy will be able to put you in touch with event organisers.

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Canon Michael Green is speaking at the **Chester Bible Focus** in Chester Town Hall on the first three Tuesdays in October. Information and tickets from Ravens Bookshop (0244 377696).

Notes and news

The charity **Help the Aged** is encouraging churches to mark the National Sunday for Elderly People on 3 October. Details are available from Stephen Goddard at Help the Aged (071 253 0253).

The Rt Revd Derek Bond, national president of the **Retired Clergy Association**, will attend the inaugural meeting of the Chester diocesan branches at 3 pm on Friday 8 October at St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, Parkgate Road, Chester. It is hoped to form branches in Chester, Nantwich and Stockport. Contact the Revd Bernard Elsdon (061 456 6824) for details.

The Bishop of Chester will be taking part in a programme in the new series of **'Close to the Edge'** to be broadcast on 10 October on ITV; the Bishop of Birkenhead took part in a programme broadcast in September.

Liverpool City Mission is holding a presentation entitled 'Fifty more ideas for Sunday School teachers' at Liverpool City Mission, Jubilee Drive, Liverpool 7 on Tuesday 12 October at 7.30 pm. For further information, contact Iain Gopsill on 051 260 8866.

There will be a service in Manchester Cathedral on Monday 25 October at 6 pm to mark the inauguration of the BBC's bi-media **religious broadcasting** department in Manchester and to welcome staff who have recently moved to the region. Anyone who wishes to attend the service will be most welcome.

On 31 October, Christians throughout the country will be encouraged to leave a legacy for Christian work in their will. **Good Will Sunday** is being sponsored by a number of Christian agencies to promote good capital stewardship. For details, write to Good Will Sunday, 3-4 Old Bakery Row, Wellington, Telford, TF1 1PS.

Prisoners' Week is observed in November each year. A day conference in preparation for this will be held at Styal Prison on Saturday 13 November. Parish clergy will be receiving details, but the chaplain at Styal Prison can be contacted on 0625 532141.

There will be a meeting for **hearing-impaired clergy** in Birmingham on 18 November. Details from Canon Geoffrey Babb (061 832 5785).

Many people are already planning for **Have Another Look** in Lent 1994. To be added to the mailing list for this practical project for evangelising together at the local level, write to: Lent 94, CCBI, Interchurch House, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London, SE1 7RL.

Small ads

Halton Family Groups, a small organisation supported by the Diocesan Board for Social Responsibility, is looking for a volunteer treasurer. The work would involve about one hour's work per week and attendance at quarterly meetings in Runcorn. For further information, please contact Sue North on 0928 572433 or Judith Barker on 0928 575666.

The administrator of the National Trust's **Dunham Massey Hall** is looking for a dozen prayer books which might be suitable for display in the hall's chapel. Contact Mr Alford on 061 941 1025 if you can help.

There will be a concert in **Holy Trinity Church, Blacon**, Chester on Wednesday 20 October at 7.45 pm to raise money for the restoration of Newquay Parish Church in Cornwall, where Blacon's choir have spent their annual holiday.

St Paul's Church, Macclesfield needs copies of the **New Cathedral Psalter**. If you can help, contact Keith Yearsley (0625 424215) or the Revd Simon Marsh (0625 422910/501773).

Services on Radio Merseyside on Sundays at 8.30 am this month include a blessing of animals service from Hargrave Parish Church (10 October) and a St

Parish Magazine Competition

There will be a national parish magazine competition next year, with parishes invited to submit the best edition of their newsletter, magazine or newspaper published in December 1993, January or February 1994. The winners in each category (newsletter, magazine and newspaper) in the diocesan competition will go forward to the national competition, with awards being presented in July 1994.

Entries will be judged, in both the diocesan and the national competitions, on layout and presentation, editing, quality of writing and appeal to common interest. The aim of the competition is to highlight good practice and offer advice on how an entrant's product can be improved. There will be three prizes for each category in the diocesan competition. The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group has agreed to sponsor the national competition with prizes to a total value of £4,000.

Entry forms for the competition are available from the Revd Tim Barker (address in CDN editor's notes box)

There will be a training day at Knutsford on Saturday 20 November to help those who have responsibility for writing for parish magazines and newsletters (clergy and lay) to improve their writing skills. Contact the Continuing Ministerial Education administrator on 0925 263434 for details.
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Luke's-tide service from Halton General Hospital in Runcorn (17 October).

The Church Holiday Bulletin for 1994 is now under preparation. Anyone wishing to offer accommodation in the UK or abroad for church members, or wishing to arrange a clergy locum, should send immediately for an application form (SAE please) to Mrs S M Bernardi, The Ascension Vicarage, Beaufort Road, Ealing, London, W5 3EB.

Christian singles? New friends, fellowship groups, social activities in Cheshire, single parent families group (0277 233848), friendship/marriage introductions. The registered charity, Christian Friendship Fellowship, seeks to help Christian singles and those now on their own. Details from CFF/DS10, Edenthorp, Doncaster, DN3 2QD.

Mid Cheshire Hospitals (NHS) Trust is holding an open day at **Leighton Hospital, Crewe** on Sunday 10 October from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free and many of the hospital's departments will be open to view, including theatres and casualty. For further information, contact the quality assurance department on 0270 255141 extn 2087.

The **Vale Royal Singers**, a distinguished broadcasting and recording chamber choir of 24 voices, currently has a vacancy for a tenor for a busy and exciting 1993/4 season which includes a BBC recording. A good standard of sight singing is required. Contact Brian Greensill at Well House, 8 Smithy Pathway, Chester, CH4 7NJ (0244 677408).

Unwanted **church seating** can be refurbished and recycled, with proceeds going towards Christian Aid's work. Call Peter West at Christian Aid on 071 620 4444.

Around the parishes

The young people have moved to Adswood in the parish of St George, Stockport, as members of a **Root Group** sponsored by the missionary society USPG. Root groups offer young people the chance to form a small community and to join a church in another area or culture within Britain, to experience church life and ministry at the sharp end whilst being supported and challenged by community life.

The churches in Congleton are joining together for a month of mission, **Light up Congleton**, this month after a wide range of activities during the year.

Heswall Parish Church in Wirral makes sure that its lesson readers do more than just read lessons: the **Guild of Lesson Readers** meets each October and over the years, members have received advice on elocution, had talks about the different versions of the Bible and been encouraged to prepare themselves for their reading. 'We readers all feel it a very great privilege to read the Word of God,' said Mr James Rushworth in a letter to CDN's editor.

A parishioner of the Church of the Resurrection, **Upton Priory**, Macclesfield, sent a poem to Radio 2's *Good Morning Sunday* programme, thereby winning for the parish a supply of *Good Morning Sunday* coffee.

Canon Roy Barker writes about

Faith at work in the business world

I wear bifocals; everybody pioneering a new venture needs them. Foreground vision is needed to set about the job! How does a chaplain to city shops and offices start? It is a venture of faith, stepping out into the unknown.

There are about a thousand businesses in Chester city centre, and over 10,000 workers. The bigger stores and offices are entered only after an interview with the one at the top: they have all been extremely friendly - curious and questioning, but welcoming. The not-so-strange notion is that I am after money or help, but I am delighted to say that I am asked by the city centre churches to affirm that God is alive, that people matter and that the world of work is just as much God's as anywhere else.

Every visit is different - speaking at staff meetings, free access to staff in their canteens. It is constant introductions and explanations; at this stage, mainly about being there. That is the foreground vision.

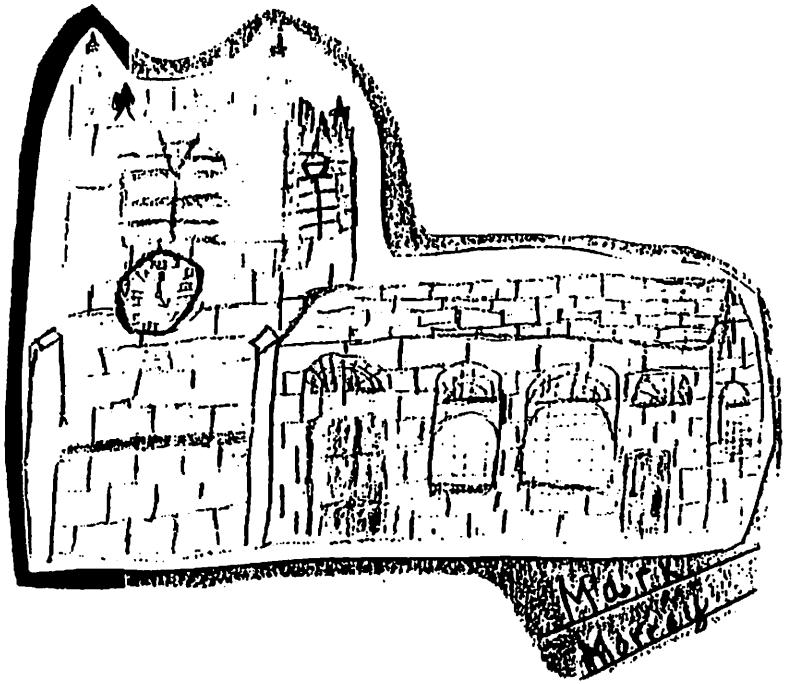
Then there's the long vision: what's the long term purpose? The gospel itself is expressed, God's representative stands where the people stand during their working hours. Love, concern and caring are expressed and waiting to be exercised as requested. People have to be given time to trust a chaplain: their questions usually demand integrity, impartiality and confidentiality. Already, I am glad to say, there have been calls for help. Help can be freely given because of the backing of the local churches.

I am only a 'temp' and very much a part timer. I am at heart a parish person, but I see the need to serve Christ among people at work, some of whom struggle to express their Christian faith and need encouragement. Please do two things: pray for chaplains in industry and commerce and invite them into your church to raise the issues that trouble the business community.

work on the topic at Alsager High School, throughout the autumn, in certain subjects.

During the first visit to the church they explored the grounds and the inside, being genuinely interested and fascinated with the gravestones. The children discovered the history of the church and the connection with the Lawton family, as well as learning about how the church runs.

On a second visit the children were shown where the bells were and how they were used. There were also given the opportunity to ring them. Climbing up the dark, winding staircase was an adventure to most.



The whole experience was most valuable and enjoyable, and the children would like to thank Reverend Joyce and his family for making the project possible. A display of some of the children's work can be seen in the entrance to the school.

TO THE EDITOR

Concerning the article "Looking Back" in "The Lawton Light!" of September, 1993. The shop referred to was that of Tommy Richardson. The name referred to by Reg Nibrel was a nickname.

The shop stood by the side of the canal opposite The Red Bull Hotel, and was a general store used by the bargees among other people.

WEEKLY GIVING

Weekly collections for August were as follows:-

Week ending	1st August 1993	-	£178.73
	8th August 1993	-	£105.50
	15th August 1993	-	£255.63
	22nd August 1993	-	£317.34
	29th August 1993	-	£201.61

MOTHERS' UNION

6th October - 2.15 p.m. - The Rectory.
Speaker - Mrs. Maisie Mottram
(Deanery President)

20th October - 8.00 p.m. - The Rectory
Speaker - Mrs. Annette Dodd
(Enrolling Member of Audley's M.U.)

CHURCH LAWTON OVER 60'S CLUB

The speaker at our meeting on the 12th August was Mr. David Moy. He gave us some very valuable advice on safety in insurance regarding such things as fire and safety locks. His talk was much appreciated by the members.

At our meeting on the 26th August we had our Fancy Dress parade. All those who took part are to be congratulated on their ingenuity and the trouble they took over their costumes. The judges, Mr. & Mrs. Bob West, had a very difficult task choosing the winners. Also at this meeting we handed over all the sewing equipment and materials we had collected for the Third World to Mrs. Anne Fryer. This has engendered such a good response that it has been decided to make it on-going, and we shall continue collecting articles for this very good cause.

Our annual Autumn Show was on the 9th September. There was a marvellous display in all classes and our Judges, Mrs. Asbury and friends, admitted how hard it had been to select the winners. The excellent show was much appreciated by all members.

***

LAWTON CHURCH

Standing like a Sentinel,
Upon a burial mound,
Guarding all the souls who lie,
Within this hallowed ground.

This Church has stood for centuries,
Mid meadowland and wood,
A symbol of our Christian faith,
In bad times and in good.

The tower, gaunt and rugged,
Looking up into the sky,
The Church clock quietly keeps the time,
As the world goes madly by.

The Bells ring out their joyous peel,
Across the country air,
At Matins, or at Evensong,
They call the folk to prayer.

The porch of recent origin,
A memorial to the young and brave,
Who gave their lives regardless,
Your life, and mine to save.

The wondrous sound of the organ,
Fill the Church with mystic glow,
As we listen to the works of the masters.
Who died so long ago.

The east window faces the rising sun,
As it's glories begin to unfold,
While the brass on the altar table,
Is magically turned to gold.

When your heart is really troubled,
Your burden too heavy to bear,
Just quietly pray in this house of God,
For He is always there.

Suns may rise, and suns may set,
Centuries roll away,
May the work of the ancient craftsmen,
Forever with us stay.

Written by Molly Stubbs for the Over 60's Craft Fair 29.7.1993.

GUIDE & BROWNIE CRAFT FAIR

Church Lawton Guide and Brownie Units are holding their annual Craft Fair on Saturday, 9th October 1993 at Alsager Civic Centre. This is an ideal opportunity for you to begin your Christmas shopping with quality crafts and help the Youth Groups in the community with their funds.

Church Lawton Parish is steeped in history
We are considering the formation of a

Lawton Heritage Society

If you are interested in assisting in this venture, please contact:
EITHER

Mrs. Audrey Gleaves
29 Liverpool Road East
Church Lawton
Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3AQ
0782 784825

OR

Mr. Robert Farrell
9 Woodgate Avenue
Church Lawton
Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3EF
0270 878386

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms: We welcome the following children into the family of the church of Jesus Christ.

5th September Alex Robin Whittington, son of Robin and Fiona Whittingham

....By our baptism, then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of the Father, so also we might live a new life. (Romans 6:4).

Funerals: We offer our sympathy to the relatives of those who have been laid to rest in the faith of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

On 4th August Barbara Welch (age 67)
On 10th September Data Price (age 40)
On 16th September Ruthy Price (age 88)

....there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 8:39).

MAGAZINE FOR MUSIC 'FOR GOD'

A QUARTERLY magazine aimed at Christian worship leaders and musicians has been launched by the Christian publishers Herald House, Worthing.

DEO - meaning to, for or in God - has grown out of Christian Music magazine, run for several years in conjunction with the Music & Worship Foundation, who continue their interest in the new-style magazine.

Editor Jane Hicks says: 'We aim to push out the boundaries on all sides of the music and worship spectrum, catering for ... those interested in evangelism through performance as well as those interested in church worship.'

St Luke's Day 18th October

St Luke, patron saint of doctors and the writer of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, is the only non-Jewish writer in the New Testament. He came from Antioch and was a doctor by profession.

Luke travelled with St Paul on his missionary journeys. He was with him in Jerusalem and shared Paul's voyage and ship-wreck on the way to Rome.

St Luke's Gospel gives us the fullest life story of Jesus that we have. His choice of stories show his own warm interest in people; especially the sick and helpless, the poor, women, children, the social outcasts.

Luke dedicated both his books to the same Roman, Theophilus (which means Friend of God so he was writing them to us too because we love God), and both were written for the same reason - to give the true facts of Christianity. St Luke stresses that he wrote down the stories of people who were there and actually saw the things for themselves.

The word 'Gospel' means 'the good news' and that is what Luke wanted the world to know - the good news of Jesus Christ.

L L L L L L L L L

All the answers in this Bible Quiz begin with the letter L - some have clues to help. So can you say which L...

1. Wrote to Theophilus?
2. Town where Paul healed a cripple (Acts 14).
3. Abraham's nephew whose wife turned to salt? (Genesis 19)
4. Country famous for its cedar trees (Psalm 72).
5. The soldiers cast these to decide who would have Jesus' robe (John 19).
6. Mary and Martha's brother, Jesus raised him from the dead.
7. The flowers of the field (Matthew 6).
8. The 3rd book of the Bible.

✷ ✷ ✷ ✷ ✷ ✷ ✷

Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a pair of curtains.
Pull yourself together.

Doctor, doctor, what are you writing on my ankle?
Just a footnote.

1.Luke 2.Lystra 3.Lot
4.Lebanon 5.lots 6. Lazarus
7.lilies 8.Leviticus

GUIDE TO SHOPS AND SERVICES

A.J.E. SCHOOL OF MOTORING
47 Woodshutts St., Butt Lane.
Tel: S-o-T 775346 Alsager 872722

Angela J. Ellison
Dept. of Trans. Approved Driving Instructor
Door to Door. Local Area

STATION GARAGE
(Dave Weatherby)
Meadows Road, Kidsgrove

M.O.T. Testing. Servicing and Repairs
(Most makes of vehicles)
Tel: 0782 782185

ANNE NEW (CATERING)
52 Sandbach Road, Rode Heath
Tel: (0270) 874602

Buffets for all occasions
Prices to suit

LAWTON GARDEN MACHINERY
(Phil & Tina Ouseley)
Lawton Garage, Crewe Road,
Church Lawton. Tel: Alsager 882492

- Machines and Spares
- All Makes
- Sales, Servicing and Repairs

LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL
Mrs. SHAW, Hall Green Farm,
Scholar Green
or Mrs. ENGLISH

For Weddings and Private Parties
Dances, Etc.
Tel: Stoke-on-Trent 782938
Tel: Alsager 874108

JOSEPH EDWARDS & SONS
144-146 Crewe Road
Alsager

Funeral Directors. Est. 1882
24 Hour personal service
Tel: Alsager 882097 – 882053

G. SHAW
22 Liverpool Road West
Church Lawton

Joinery Contractor
Building and Property Repairs
Tel: Alsager 875300

W.J. GALLIMORE
Member of the B.D.A.
368 Turnhurst Road, Packmoor
Tel: Stoke-on-Trent 812902

Quality Painting and Decorating
Deep Vac and Carpet Shampooing
Deep Vac is free with all decoration
booked through this advertisement

P. WOODWARD
Lawton Mere Nursery
Cherry Lane, Lawton

Growers of Cut Flowers, Bedding Plants,
Tomatoes, Lettuce etc. in their season
Tel: Alsager 874186

GUIDE TO SHOPS AND SERVICES

MARTIN A. ALCOCK Plumbing and Heating 4a Drumber Lane, Scholar Green	Registered Plumber, City & Guilds Plumbing, Central Heating, Leadwork, Guttering, Bathrooms. Tel: 0782 513256
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION SHOP 16 Victoria Street, Crewe. Tel: (0270) 250377 Local Contact: Louisa Turner, 2 Grove Avenue, Church Lawton. Tel: (0270) 878355	**ALWAYS NEED:** Good quality clothing, shoes, books, toys, jewellery, records, tapes, videos, bric a brac. Reg. Charity No. 225971
J.M. GARDENING John Murray 14 Norfolk Walk, Congleton Tel: 0260 274676	A complete gardening service and for maintenance of family graves; either on a regular basis or for a 'one-off' tidy up
HARRY JAMES Retail Milk Supplies 61 High Street, Mow Cop, Stoke-on-Trent. Tel: 0782 516854	Dairy Produce, Cream, Pop, Cordials, Eggs, Bread, Potatoes, Fruit Juices, Yoghurts, etc.

Lifeboat at Port Askaig, Isle of Islay, by Bill Meadows
(Z series cover published by Chansitor Publications Ltd, 16 Blyburgate, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 9TB; printed in Great Britain by Stott Brothers Ltd, Halifax)